Broadgrin (J.) pseud
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THE BOOK OF ODDITIES:

OR,

Agreeable Variety

FOR

TOWN *and* COUNTRY;

CONTAINING,

An uncommon Collection of the most curious STORIES, which may be valued for their

BEING

QUEER,	COMIC,
ODD,	ABSURD,
STRANGE,	OUT O'TH'WAY,
AMAZING,	AND
WHIMSICAL,	UNACCOUNTABLE.

DESIGNED

To promote Mirth, and excite the Wonder and Astonishment of all the Sons and Daughters of *Adam*. The whole calculated to make the Countryman stare, the Citizen laugh, and the Courtier Grin: Adapted both to the Sultry Days of Autumn and the Gloomy Nights of Winter.

My Articles in O der thus I range;
Mira.ulous and Quee , and odd, and strange:
And other Thing with these collateral,
As whim sical and supernatural.

THIRD EDITION.

DUBLIN:

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BRITISH MUSEUM

To the Merry Reader.

IT may, perhaps, be thought needleſs to prefix a preface to a work of this kind, the profeſſed deſign of which is only to divert and amuſe the reader in a leiſure hour. However, as he may think I deal too abruptly, ſhould I neglect the compliment of a previous addreſs, I comply with the cuſtom, and beg leave to introduce him to the following entertainment with this ſummary view of it:

My Articles in order thus I range:
Miraculous and queer, and odd, and ſtrange;
And other things with theſe collateral,
As whimſical and ſupernatural.

I've ſtrove to merit your applauſe,
Which is, at leaſt, the ſecond cauſe
From which I act---for to be juſt,
The ready rino was the firſt,
The cauſe which furniſh'd out this treat,
That you might laugh, and I might eat;
And I'll eſteem it pretty picking,
If ev'ry tale produce a chicken.

How willing ſoever I am to gratify curioſity, I find it almoſt impoſſible to give a diſtinct account of ſo miſcellaneous a work. Let it ſuffice to ſay, that the melancholy and ſplenetic, will be here diverted with ſtories of humour and pleaſantry, and ſuch as cannot be met with any where elſe; the ſerious and contemplative, with inſtances of the firmneſs of virtue, the inſtability of fortune, and the miſeries attending a vicious conduct: the lively and ſprightly, the frolickſome and gay, will be exhilirated with tales of merriment and jocularity. The curious and inquiſitive, will be feaſted with abundant matter of entertainment: and tho e who are fond of private anecdotes, will here meet with ſome intereſting ones, which, though but little known, more truly characterize, certain perſonages, who have made a ſhining figure in the world, than their flattering hiſtorians with all their rhetoric, could raiſe them monuments of glory. In brief, the wit is regaled, with the bright products of fancy and genius; the moraliſt, with ſerious reflections; and the mirthful

and

and jocoſe, with merry and humorous adventures.

To conclude, if you find I have advanced nothing of this volume, but what its contents will juſtify; and that fathers and mothers, ſons and daughters, old and young, married and ſingle, of whatever ſize or complexion their underſtandings and tempers may be, will here find ſomething to inſtruct or entertain them in a ſolitary hour; I hope it will be allowed there is no one better qualified for future favour, than

Your obliged humble Servant,

TOBY BROADGRIN.

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THE

THE
New Story Teller.

THE ODD FELLOW.

YOUR odd fellow is one who will do nothing like the reſt of the world. There was, a few years ago a remarkable illuſtration of this character in one White, a man of ſmall independent fortune, who lived in the Borough of Southwark; this man acted wholly upon the principles of contradiction; on a Sunday he always wore the worſt cloaths, and fed on the worſt food he could get, becauſe other people both eat and wore the beſt; on a Monday, becauſe it is a kind of holiday, he uſed to employ himſelf in ſome ſort of work from morning till night; the reſt of the week he kept holiday, dreſſing himſelf juſt decent on a Tueſday, better on a Wedneſday, better ſtill on Thurſday, and ſo on till by Saturday evening when other people were buſy and undreſſed, he was the idleſt and beſt dreſſed man in the parith; he uſed to make a point of dining on a gooſe on Shrove Tueſ-

day, and on pancakes on Michaelmas-day; he fed upon oyſters as long as the weather continued hot, but left off eating them as ſoon as there was an R in the month; he almoſt ſtarved himſelf on Chriſtmas-day, and eat like a glutton, when there was a public proclamation for a faſt; when it rained hard he went without his waiſtcoat or great coat, but would button himſelf up cloſe and warm in the hotteſt day in ſummer; he wrote with a ſkewer cut into the form of a pen, and faſtened his letters with paſte; he conſtantly ſat on a low table, and eat off a chair; he ſlept in his kitchen, breakfaſted in the garret, dined in the cellar, and eat his ſupper all the year round in the paſſage leading to the ſtreet door; he married three wives and lived with neither of them; he would frequently pay a waterman to take his boat, and attend him on the banks of the Thames, but never got into it; and once a month he hired a coach, but always rode with the coachman; he ſometimes called for a pot of purl at an ale-houſe, and always drank it at the door; he ſhaved himſelf with a pen-knife, and combed his wig with a cloaths-bruſh; he ſometimes went to church, and ſtaid the whole ſervice, but never ſat down; when in company he never ſpoke a word, but when alone he was always talking to himſelf; when he was ſick he ſent for the butcher, but often when in health he conſulted the apothecary; he paid his houſe-rent in the middle of the quarter, and always before it became due; when he died he owed no man a ſhilling, and took ſufficient care that no man ſhould ever owe him ſixpence.

The odd Set of Teeth.

A Man who lived in Whitechapel as late as the year 1750, had a ſet of teeth ſo remarkably looſe,

looſe, that he could take any of them out and put them in at pleaſure; which he uſed frequently to perform at public-houſes for wagers, yet no other perſon could move one of them, although it was frequently attempted by the man's permiſſion.

On examination it appeared that his teeth were all ſound and good, and not one artificial tooth among them.

Life preſerved by ſwimming under the Ice.

IT happened in the hard froſt in the year 1739-40, that one Mr. EDWARDS, a hoſier in Cheapſide, was upon the Thames, oppoſite Somerſet ſtairs, with his wife and family; at this time the water was ſunk ſeveral inches from the bottom of the ice, which was very tranſparent. All at once Edwards miſſed his ſon, a lad of fourteen years of age, who had ſlipt through a hole in the ice; where his father eſpying him, and knowing the boy was an excellent ſwimmer, waved his hand for him to follow him: the lad underſtood the ſignal, and ſwimming chiefly on his back, followed his father's motions, who ſtill leading him where the ice was tranſparent, and ſending perſons to look out for another hole, they at length took him up, near the ſhore, almoſt as low as London-Bridge; the boy's cloaths froze to his back immediately on being taken out, but he did not ſeem in the leaſt frightened or fatigued.

Extraordinary Diligence of the Romans.

MARCUS AURELIUS making mention of the diligence of the antient Romans, writes, that they employed themſelves about their lawful occaſi-

ons with ſo much ardent zeal and good-will, that in all the city of Rome he could not find one idle perſon to carry a letter as a meſſenger, a journey of two or three days.

A Fiſh eating himſelf.

IT is recorded of the fiſh Polypus, that when he finds himſelf oppreſſed with hunger, he will eat off the ends of his fins, which he well judges will grow again, as it always happens.

The Pope's A—— poiſoned.

VARIOUS attempts having been made to take away the life of a certain pope by poiſon, but without ſucceſs, it was determined that when he retired to his cloſe-ſtool, his ſervant ſhould preſent him with a piece of paper, which had been properly prepared; which his holineſs uſing, it had the deſired effect, as the poiſoned paper deprived him of life, though adminiſtered at the wrong end of the body.

Extraordinary Effects of a Famine.

WHEN Scipio beſieged Numance, and there was no hope left of getting proviſions of any kind, they began to go a hunting every day for Romans, as hunters do for wild game, and they eat the fleſh and drank the blood without horror, carrying the carcaſes of all they took to the ſhambles, where they were cut in pieces, and ſold as butcher's meat; ſo that a Roman being dead, was worth more than his ranſom would have amounted to had he been alive.

The Avaricious Man punished.

CARDINAL ANGELOTTI was so infected with avarice, that at night when his groom had fed his horses with oats, he would go to the stable by a private way and rob his own cattle, which continued for so many nights together, that the groom perceiving his horses to grow leaner, began to think how he might trepan the thief; for which purpose he went and hid himself in the stable, till the master came to rob the horses of their oats. The groom little suspected his master, but finding a man in the dark, creeping towards the manger, began to lay about him in a most furious manner, so that the master, after receiving many blows with the fork, and being wounded in several places, was carried in a helpless manner to his chamber, where he continued ill for a considerable time.

An odd Supposition.

THE author of an old book called the Theatre of the World, supposes, that if a person who died of love was to be opened, and anatomized, we should find all his entrails gone, his heart burnt up, his liver smoaked and dried, and all the dependencies of the brain damnified and spoiled: and he believes, that the poor soul (as he calls the lover) was scorched, and, as it were roasted upon a fire, with the vehement, ardent, and excessive heat that it endured, since first the fury of love surprized him.

Amazing Courage.

MARCUS SURGIUS, having loſt his right hand in battle, and received twenty three wounds at ſeveral times, fought afterwards four battles with his left hand, and being unable to defend himſelf any longer with that alone, got the ſtump of his right hand ſteeled, with which he again combatted, going to the ſiege of Cremona therewith: he alſo after this defended Playſance, and took 12 towns in France.

Mathematical Excellence.

IT is reported by Plutarch, that Archimedes did draw, only with one hand, and one cord, quite acroſs the market-place of Syracuſe, a large ſhip, laden with merchandize, which he performed as eaſily as a man would lead a horſe by the collar, and all this, only by the excellence of his mathematical art; a thing which Baptiſt Leon, in the laſt century ſaid was very poſſible to be done, and undertook to perform, if any perſon would furniſh him with materials and neceſſaries to do it withal.

The Man-Fiſh.

ALEXANDER of Alexandria, and above fifty other hiſtorians, have written an account of a man named Collas, whom they call the fiſh Collas: this man had accuſtomed himſelf from his infancy to the frequenting of the ſea, till at laſt he became an inhabitant thereof; and dwelt there with ſuch obſtinate perſeverance, that he never after could be perſuaded

ſuaded from it; ſo that at length he became viſcous and wateriſh, and continued in the ſea the greateſt part of his life; being ſometimes hidden betwixt two waves like a fiſh, ſo that he could not be ſeen for five or ſix hours togerher; and would ſeldom come out in leſs than eight or ten days; but when he ſaw a ſhip he would go ſometimes abboard and live with the mariners for ſome time; and when tired, he would throw himſelf overboard into the ſea and be gone. He ſaid that when he was on ſhore, he uſed to be troubled with a pain in the ſtomach, which he had not when in the water.

Ineffectual Poiſon.

GALEN the phyſician writes of a certain maid whoſe name was Napullas, that ſhe was fed and brought up from her younger yours with poiſon, ſo that ſhe was ſo well accuſtomed to it, that the poiſon ſhe took converted itſelf into nouriſhment, without having any other effect upon her body, than that thoſe who lay with her were infected by ber breath, and died by it.

Particulars of Alexander the Great.

QUINTUS CURTIUS informs us, that Alexander the Great, was compoſed of ſuch a harmony of temperatures, that his breath did naturally ſmell like balſam, and likewiſe his ſweat was ſo ſweet and pleaſant, that in a morning, on opening his chamber door, one would have thought it had been perfumed with ſweets; and what is yet more ſtrange, it is recorded that his dead body afforded ſuch an odoriferous ſmell, that it ſeemed to be embalmed, or filled full of aromatic drugs.

Luſt abated by Muſic.

AGAMEMNON going to the wars of Troy, and not being well aſſured of the chaſtity of his wife Clytemneſtra, left her in the care of a moſt excellent harper, who when he ſaw her begin to go into love-fits, would mitigate the burning heat of her paſſion by the ſweetneſs of his inſtrument; inſomuch that Ageſtus could not enjoy her, till he had murdered the harper who was her faithful protector and guardian.

The Delicate Glutton,

(An Anecdote of Count ZINZENDORF.*)*

THE late count Zinzendorf, was inacceſſible for half an hour, and ſometimes near a whole one, every day, which time he uſed to employ as follows: being ſeated in his elbow chair, he gave the ſignal for his being ready for his important buſineſs, when, one of his principal domeſtics, preceded by a page, with a cloth on his arm, entered, and preſented him with a ſilver ſalver, with many little pieces of bread, elegantly diſpoſed; he was immediately followed by the firſt cook, who, on another ſalver, had a number of ſmall veſſels filled with ſo many different kinds of gravy, his excellency then tucking his napkin into his cravat, firſt waſhed and gargled his mouth, and having wiped it, dipped a piece of bread into each kind of ſauce, and having taſted with much deliberation, rincing his palate (to avoid confuſion) after every piece; at length, with inexpreſſible ſagacity, decided on their ſeveral merits, giving directions to place them on the table accordingly.

Marriage

Marriage Ceremonies of the Hottentots.

IF a batchelor or widower is diſpoſed to marry, his firſt buſineſs is to diſcloſe the matter to his father: if his father conſents, he goes along with him to the houſe of the woman's father, in order to demand her in marriage for his ſon. When the lover and his father wait on the friends of the woman, it is the buſineſs of the lover to prepare and preſent dacha, or tobacco to the company, they all ſmoak and the converſation turns upon different matters; the viſitors ſeeming to have forgot the buſineſs they came about, and no one paying any attention to it, till the heads of all preſent are intoxicated with ſmoaking. Then the father of the lover, addreſſing himſelf to the father of the woman, opens the buſineſs he comes on, and demands the woman as a match for his ſon. The father of the woman goes out to conſult his wife upon this overture, and returns with a favourable anſwer, unleſs the woman be previouſly contracted to another. When this happens to be the caſe, the father and ſon depart, and the matter is entirely dropp'd. The lover then looks out for a new choice; and if his father is not living, he muſt have the approbation of the next in authority of his relations; and if the father of the woman be dead, the next in authority of her kindred has the diſpoſal of her. If the father or relation of the woman conſents, ſhe is next conſulted herſelf. If ſhe does not like the match, ſhe has but one chance to eſcape it, ſhe muſt lie down with her lover on the ground, and play with him a whole night, unleſs the game is ſooner up, at pinching, tickling and clap a---; if ſhe gets the better of her lover at this ſport ſhe is fairly rid of him, and he muſt drop all thoughts of her: but ſhe muſt marry him, willing or unwilling, if ſubdued by him, as it gene-

rally

rally happens. This ſport being over, and the lover being made a man, he loſes no time, but chooſing two or three fat oxen from his own, or his father's herd, according to the wealth of the family, he drives them to the houſe from whence he is to take his deſtined bride. All his relations, men and women, that live near him, accompany him let the abode of his miſtreſs be ever ſo far off; and arriving before the houſe, all the relations of the woman thereabout immediately aſſemble, and receive them, with innumerable greetings and careſſes: the oxen are ſlain after the Hottentot manner.

The whole company now beſmear their bodies with the fat of them, and then powder themſelves all over with buchu: the more fat and buchu they have upon their bodies, the finer they reckon themſelves; they therefore bedaub and powder themſelves very laviſhly, and the women, to appear ſtill more fine and amiable, colour their foreheads, cheeks and chins with red chalk-ſtone, which they have in great abundance.

They then proceed to the nuptial ceremony, which is as follows: the men ſquat themſelves upon the ground in a circle, in the center of which the bridegroom places himſelf; then the prieſt enters the circle of the men, and coming up to the bridegroom, piſſes upon him a little; the bridegroom receives the ſtream with tranſport, rubbing it briſkly all over his body, and making with his long nails (for the Hottentots never cut theirs) ſeveral deep ſcratches in his ſkin, that the urine may penetrate and ſoak in the farther.

The prieſt then goes to the circle of the women, and coming up to the bride piſſes a little upon her; and ſhe receives and rubs the urine upon her body, with as much alacrity as the bridegroom: then goes the prieſt again to the bridegroom, and having piſſed a little more upon him, retires to the bride, and again

piſſes

piſſes upon her: and ſo goes from one to the other, till he has exhauſted his whole ſtock of urine, uttering from time to time to each of them the following good wiſhes; "May you live long and be happy toge-
"ther; may you have a ſon before the end of the
"year; may this ſon live to be a comfort to you in
"your old age; may this ſon prove to be a man of
"courage and a good huntſman."

This is the whole of the nuptial ceremony, which being ended, the company riſe and join in the feaſt prepared on the occaſion; and dinner being over, each company has one tobacco pipe: he or ſhe that fills it, lights it, and having taken one or two whiffs, gives it to his or her neighbour, who having ſmoaked a little, hands it ſo the next, and ſo the pipe goes round till it is out. Having ſmoaked, raved and talked their fill, the bridegroom retires to his wife, and the next day they ſit down to what food they have left, and ſo continue from day to day, eating and drinking, till all the proviſion is gone, and then the feſtivity ends.

Extraordinary Drinking.

DIARCE in his hiſtory of the Lombards, informs us of four old men, who meeting together, agreed to drink as many cups (about half a pint) as they were years old, the youngeſt was fifty-eight, the ſecond ſixty-three, the third eighty-ſeven, and the laſt ninety-two years old: all which they performed, nor do we hear that either of them fell a ſacrifice to this extraordinary inſtance of intemperance.

Scheme

Scheme of a Raven to allay his Thirſt.

PLUTARCH tells us of a raven in Aſia, who being almoſt famiſhed with thirſt, came to a place where there were two buckets in a well, the one in the water, the other empty and dry; whereupon he took up ſtones, and ſuch things as he could find, and filled the empty bucket, till it weighed the other ſo high out of water, that he got drink ſufficient to ſatisfy his thirſt.

The old Fornicator.

IN the year 1583, an accuſation was exhibited in the eccleſiaſtical court againſt Thomas Parr, then aged upwards of an hundred, for the crime of fornication; he was ſentenced to do penance for his offence which ſentence was accordingly put in execution. This is the famous Parr, who lived to the age of 153 years, wanting only three months.

The Cook cook'd.

ON the 5th of April, 1531, Richard Coſe, a cook, was boiled in a chaldron in Weſt-Smithfield, for poiſoning ſixteen perſons at the biſhop of Rocheſter's palace; among whom was Bennet Curvine, Eſq;---and he declared at his execution, that his intent was to have poiſoned the biſhop himſelf; but as his lordſhip eat no pottage that day, he happily ſaved his life.

The Political Blunderer.

ONE Guymond, a chaplain in ordinary to Henry the firſt, perceiving that for the generality the worſt ſcholars had the beſt preferments in the church: being one day ſaying maſs before the king, the epiſtle was taken out of St. James, where in reading the words, "It rained not upon the earth three months "and ſix days," he blunderingly read, "It rained "not upon the earth for one, one, one years, and "five-one months." The king took notice hereof; and reprimanded him for it. Guymond anſwered, That as reading and ſpeaking nonſenſe were become ſo faſhionable, and thoſe that did ſo, were better preferred, than men of parts and learning, he imitated that prevailing method, to come in for his ſhare amongſt the blockheads, rather than ſtarve amongſt men of ſenſe; at which the king ſmiled in approbation of the repartee, and ſoon after made him warden of a college at Oxford.

The fatal Thurſday.

IT is worthy to be remembered, that Thurſday was obſerved to be a day fatal to king Henry the 8th, and to all his poſterity; for he himſelf died on Thurſday the 28th of January; king Edward the 6th, on Thurſday the 9th of July; queen Mary, on Thurſday the 7th of November; and queen Elizabeth, on Thurſday the 24th of March.

The Chriſtian Jew.

IN the year 1462, a Jew was hanged by the feet in Saxony. At firſt he was unwilling to recant: but

four

four and twenty hours afterwards he desired to be baptized; upon which a priest mounted the gibbet, and baptized him in open air, between heaven and earth. After that, he was taken down, and a few weeks after died a good christian.

The Forgetful Man.

A Gentleman of Angiers, who did not trust to his mem ry, and wrote down all that he was to do; wrote in his pocket-book, "Memorandum, that "I must be married when I come to Tours."

Bad Weather Out-ridden.

A Gentleman riding from Dartford to London, saw behind him a great shower of rain, and several travellers, all great-coated and wet thorough. He new put on briskly, and out-rode the shower all the way, that by the time he got to Shooter's-hill, it had only reached his horse's tail, and so continued till he got to London, he not being in the least wet by it.

Odd Accident that befel a Jew.

IN the year 1428, the archbishop of Magdeburg caused all the Jews to be driven out of his diocese, permitting them at the same time to carry with them all their effects.

It happened that one of the Jews had the misfortune to fall into a necessary-house, and as his brethren did not care to take him out, because it was Saturday, their Sabbath, the archbishop forbid taking him out on the Sunday following, lest the Sabbath of the Christians should be profaned; and the poor fellow stunk of it ever after.

Instance

Inſtance of ſurpriſing Memory.

WILLIAM LYON, a ſtroling player, who uſed, ſome years ago, to perform at Edinburgh, and who was excellent in the part of Gibby the highlander, gave the following ſurpriſing inſtance of memory.

One evening, over the bottle, he wagered a crown bowl of punch, that he, next morning at the rehearſal, would repeat a Daily Advertiſer, from beginning to end. At the rehearſal his opponent reminded him of his wager, imagining as he was drunk the night before, that he muſt certainly have forgot it, and rallied him ſeverely on his boaſting of his memory.—— Lyon pulled out the paper, and deſired him to be judge, whether he did, or did not, win the wager. Notwithſtanding the odd connection of the paragraphs the number, and variety of advertiſements, and the general chaos, which is in the compoſition of any news-paper, he repeated it from beginning to end, without any miſtake.

I know this to be true, and belive the like cannot be produced in any age or nation. Lyon died at Edinburgh about the year 1748.

Lazineſs in the Extreme.

SOME few years ſince, a Dutch fiſhing veſſel, in a hard gale of wind in the night, with three or four men on board her, was caſt away on the Norfolk coaſt, and the men all drowned; but in the morning they were found caſt upon the beach, and lying on their backs, with each of them his ſhort pipe in his mouth, and his hands, as uſual, in his breeches: when if they had made a proper uſe of them, there was great probability they might have ſaved their lives, as the veſſel was ſtranded near the ſhore.

Amazing

Amazing Likeneſs between two Perſons.

A Certain native of Franckfort had ſo ſtrong a reſemblance to a gentleman of that city, that in his abſence, he paſſed himſelf as ſuch upon his wife. At the end of three years, however, the real huſband returned, and the counterfeit one was ſeverely puniſhed for the impoſition.

Odd Remedy uſed by the Tartars of Muſcovy.

WHEN a Ruſſian Tartar is taken ill, his chief remedy is to drink mare's milk and horſe's blood, boiled hot. What ſeems ſurprizing in theſe barbarians is, that they ſometimes paſs three or four days without eating or drinking, or ceaſing to work as uſual. This happens to them when they go upon ſome military expedition, or ſome long voyage. But before they undertake either, they bleed their horſes, and drink the blood hot; this ſerves them as nouriſhment for ſome days.

The three-eyed Girl.

AT Arlington in the county of Durham, in the year 1609, Mary Travers, the wife of Thomas Travers, plumber and glazier, was delivered of a female child, who had three eyes: two of which were in the common part of the face, and the third was placed directly above the noſe in the middle of the forehead; and what adds to the wonder of this phenomenon is, that the right eye was of a fine hazle colour, the left was blue, and the eye in the middle of the forehead, was grey---the child died about two hours after its birth.

The

The truth of this affair was atteſted by the mid-wife, a phyſician, ſurgeon, apothecary, and ſix of the neighbours of good credit.

There is now in the Britiſh Muſeum, a child with three eyes preſerved in ſpirits, which was a part of the late Sir Hans Sloan's collection of curioſities.

The Holy Cellar.

IN the pariſh of Stanlake, in the county of Oxford, on aſcenſion-day, when they go the bounds of the pariſh, at the Chequer-inn, the parſon, and ſome of the company, go down into the cellar, where the parſon reads the goſpel at the head of a barrel of beer; which is afterwards given to the populace. The cauſe of this odd cuſtom, ſay ſome, is, that formerly there was an hermitage, others ſay, a croſs in the place, where the chequer now ſtands, at which this ceremony uſed to be performed, which being now deſtroyed, and the houſe built over the place, it is obliged to be performed in the cellar.

Odd proclamation for holding of a Fair among the Scotch.

O Yes; and that's e'e time; O yes! and that's twaa times; O yes! and that's theird and laſt time. All manner of pearſon or pearſons, whoſoever, let 'em draw near, and I ſhall let them kenn, that there is a fair to be held at the muckle town of Langholm, for the ſpace of aught days, wherein if any huſtrin, cuſtrin, land-lopper, dub-ſkouper, or gang the gate-ſwinger, ſhall bread any drudam, durdam, rabblement, brabblement, or ſqabblement, he ſhall have his lugs tacked to the muckle trone with a nail

of a twaal a penny, until he dawn on his Hob-ſhanks, and up with his muckle doaps; and pray to hea'en, neen times.——God bleſs the king, and thrice the muckle laird of Relton, paying a groat to me, Jemmy Ferguſon, bailey of the aforeſaid manner.——So you heard my proclamation, and I'll gang haam to my dinner.

Dr. HILL'S *Method of catching Wild Ducks, (as communicated to the Royal Society.)*

TIE to the end of a long ſtring, a piece of fat bacon, two inches long, and half an inch thick; let the other end of the ſtring be faſtened to a tree, or poſt; then leave it the whole night. The firſt duck that comes will eat the bacon, and void it again in a few minutes; it will then be gobbled up by another, and after that by a third, and ſo on, each voiding it ſoon after the ſwallowing, and the ſtring continuing fixed to it, and regularly paſſing through the guts of the whole covey. Thus, in the morning, a whole ſtring of ducks will be found ready catched; and there needs only the drawing in the ſtring to take them all up.

The Difficulty of one Welchman knowing another.

A Welchman, having one night endeavoured to diſplay his abilities, at that eloquent ſociety, called Robin-Hood, his oration was ſeverely criticiſed and animadverted upon by ſeveral orators in the oppoſition, and eſpecially by one of his countrymen. When the ſociety broke up, he addreſſed himſelf to a gentleman of his acquaintance in this manner: dear, didn't you obſerve what a ſilly argument that Scotch

Scotch fellow made againſt me. Why, it was your own dear countryman, ſaid the gentleman, How came you not to perceive it? No ſurely, reply'd Taffy; Why then, my dear, I will tell you the reaſon; you know that if there be two people in a company that have eat garlick, they can't ſmell it upon each other.

Love after Death.

TWO merchants in the ſtreet of St. Honore in Paris, united by friendſhip and intereſt, and of equal fortunes, had the one a ſon, and the other a daughter, who were brought up together, and flattered by their parents with hopes of being united for ever.

The time was now drawing near, when a man, who had nothing to recommend him but a large fortune, falling in love with the young lady, apply'd to her relations, and obtained her againſt her conſent, in ſpight of all her entreaties and tears.

This misfortune ſo ſenſibly touched her, that it viſibly affected her conſtitution; and after a lingering illneſs, ſhe was carried off and buried. The lover, inſtead of giving way to deſpair, conceived ſome hope; remembering that ſhe had once a lethargy; he therefore went in the night to the church-yard, with the grave-digger, whom he had bribed, took her out of her grave, brought her to his houſe, and uſed the beſt of his endeavours with ſuch ſucceſs, that in a ſhort time ſhe recovered.

How great was her ſurprize to ſee her lover? It was not difficult to make her ſenſible how much ſhe was indebted to him; ſhe was prevailed upon to forget her former huſband, and think that he who had reſtored her to life had the beſt right to it.—In ſhort, as it was not quite ſo ſafe to remain at Paris, for fear

of her former huſband, they thought it moſt prudent to go over to England, where they ſoon arrived, and purchaſed a little eſtate in the country, and lived in an uninterrupted felicity the reſt of their days.

An account of John Ferguſon of Killmellford in the ſhire of Argyle in Scotland, who lived eighteen years on water.

ABOUT eighteen years ago he happened to overheat himſelf on the mountains, in purſuit of cattle, and in that condition drank exceſſively of cold water from a rivulet, near which he fell aſleep; he awakened twenty-four hours after in a high fever: during the paroxyſm of the fever, and ever ſince that time, his ſtomach loaths and cannot retain any kind of aliment, except water, or clarified whey. Archibald Campbell, of Ineverliver, to whom this man's father is tenant, carried him to his own houſe, and locked him in a chamber for twenty days, and ſupplied him himſelf with water, at no greater quantity in a day than an ordinary man would uſe for common drink; and at the ſame time took particular care that it ſhould not be poſſible for his gueſt to ſupply himſelf with any other food; yet after that ſpace of time he found no alteration in his vigour or viſage.

Odd Inſtance of Revenge.

IN the year 1732, a certain perſon, named Carpenter, of Biceſter in Oxfordſhire; having been, by his neighbour, called Cuckold, took it ſo in dudgeon, that to be revenged on him, he hang'd himſelf, on purpoſe to deprive the other of an annuity of thirty pounds per annum, which he held on his life.

The

The merry Tenure of the Manor of Hemmingſtone.

THE manor of Hemmingſtone, near Needham in Norfolk, was formerly held by Baldwin de Petteur, by ſerjeantry, for which he was obliged on Chriſtmas-day to perform before our lord the king of England, one Saltus, one Sufflatus, and one Bombulus; or, as it is elſewhere ſaid, a Saltus, a Sufflus, and Pettus; that is, ſaid the learned Camden, He was to Dance, make a noiſe with his Cheeks, and to let a Fart, in the preſence of the king.

Strange Cuſtoms of the antient Britons.

THE antient Britons eat the fleſh of their fathers and mothers, after their death, ſucked the blood of their enemies, and rubbed their faces with it.—— When a woman was brought to bed of a ſon, ſhe made him take his firſt food upon rhe point of her huſband's ſword, at the ſame time praying that he might die only in battle. They aſſigned wolves, dogs, and other animals, as god-fathers to their children.

Odd Feſtival celebrated at Bruſſels.

THE nineteenth of January, a very odd feſtival is celebrated at Bruſſels. Every wife undreſſes her huſband, and carries him to bed. And the next day the huſbands invite their wives relations, and entertain them with the utmoſt generoſity.

It is ſaid that this ceremony was inſtituted in commemoration of a ſiege, at which the women had ſtipulated at the capitulation, that they ſhould be allowed to carry with them their children, and what-

ever elſe they were able to carry. This being granted by the enemy, each wife carried her huſband with her.

An Account of a TRITON, *ſeen at Exeter.*

AT Exeter in the year 1737, ſome fiſhermen near that city drawing their net aſhore, a creature of human ſhape, having two legs, leaped out, and ran away very ſwiftly; not being able to overtake it, they knocked it down by throwing ſticks after it. At their coming up to it, it was dying, and groaned like a human creature: its feet were webbed like a duck's, it had eyes, noſe and mouth, reſembling thoſe of a man, only the noſe ſomewhat depreſſed; a tail not unlike a ſalmon's, turning up towards its back, and was four feet high. It was publickly ſhewn at that time.

Inſtance of immenſe Riches.

THE dukes of Florence have been always famous for their wealth. Coſmo the firſt, ſirnamed the Great, ſpent four millions in erecting public edifices, and ten in pious uſes; yet at his death, he left ten millions in ready money, and two in jewels and precious ſtones.

It was a common ſaying with this prince, "That "in his account-books he never found God in the "number of his debtors."

The long-lived Fiſh.

IN the year 1605, as the French king, Henry IV. was angling in one of his canals, at the palace of Fountain-

Fountainbleau, he caught a carp of a monſtrous ſize, which he ordered might not be killed, but to have a golden bracelet faſtened round his body, and put into a ſmall ſtore pond, in order for him to feed it every day with his own hand, while he continued there; and, at his departure for Paris, appointed a particular perſon to feed the carp daily in his abſence, which ſoon became ſo tame as to eat out of the feeder's hand.

Here it continued during the reign of that monarch, and that of Lewis XIV: the prince, though then an infant, was greatly pleaſed to feed it, and continued his favour till about July 1714, when it was found dead; and it proved a very great concern to the king, who expreſſed a ſtrong value for it; and by the inſcription on its bracelet when taken off, it was known to be 109 years old; and how much older, no perſon could ever ſay.

Strange Advantage in having a Beard.

AMONG the cuſtoms of the Sicilians there is one that appears ridiculous to us, and which is notwithſtanding ſtrictly obſerved. Neither men nor women are allowed to lodge in public houſes, if they have not a beard upon their chins. Guards viſit all the inns and public houſes, at night, and examine the beds, to ſee whether there is any one without a beard in them; and no beardleſs perſons are admitted to lodge in theſe houſes, without being particularly known to ſome inhabitant of character, or having authentic atteſtations and certificates.

An

An odd Prayer of a Miſer.

O Lord, thou knoweſt that I have nine houſes in the city of London; and likewiſe that I have lately purchaſed an eſtate in fee-ſimple, in the county of Eſſex: therefore I beſeech thee to preſerve the two counties of Eſſex and Middleſex from fire and earthquakes. And as I have a mortgage in Hertfordſhire, I beg of thee likewiſe, to have an eye of compaſſion on that county. And for all the reſt of the counties, thou mayeſt deal with them as thou art pleaſed.

O enable the Bank to anſwer all their bills, and make all my debtors good men. Give a proſperous voyage and return to the Mermaid ſloop, which I have inſured. And as thou haſt ſaid, that the days of the wicked ſhall be but ſhort, I truſt in thee, that thou wilt not forget thy promiſe, having purchaſed an eſtate in reverſion of Sir J. C. a profligate young man.

I alſo pray thee to keep our friends from ſinking; and, if it be thy will, let there be no Sinking-Funds. And keep my ſon Caleb out of evil company, and gaming-houſes: and ſanctify this night to me, by preſerving me from thieves and fire, and make my ſervants honeſt and careful, whilſt I thy faithful ſervant lie down in peace. So be it.

Life ſtrangely preſerved.

DURING the time of action, at the battle of Dettingen, in Germany, between the allies, commanded by his late Majeſty, king George II. in perſon, and the French army commanded by the marſhall duke de Noailles, on June 16, 1743, a lieutenant

tenant belonging to colonel Johnſon's regiment, received a muſket-ball, which entered thro' his breeches fob-pocket, and ſettled in the movement of his watch (its glaſs being outward) by which means his life was preſerved; for had his watch not received the ball, he would have been ſhot in the groin, and conſequently killed on the ſpot.

The watch was afterwards ſhewn to moſt of the principal officers among the Engliſh troops, and the owner ſtill keeps it in his poſſeſſion.

An odd Manifeſtation of Pride.

THE great Cham of Tartary, every day, when he had dined, cauſed a great number of trumpets to be ſounded at his palace gate, to notify to all the kings and ſovereign princes, in all parts of the world, that the great Cham had dined, and now gave them leave to go to dinner.

The Miracle-making Parſon.

A Welch parſon, having once made a great preachment about miracles, obſerved that the prophet Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a *Quail!* he never took the leaſt notice of his blunder, till he came down from the pulpit, and was whiſpered in the ear by his clerk, who with becoming modeſty and ſubmiſſion, told the learned preacher, that he miſtook a *Quail* for a *Whale*. Jut, you fool, reply'd the ſhrewd parſon, the miracle's the greater.

The Chineſe Gameſters.

THE Chineſe are ſo exceſſively addicted to gaming, that they not only play very high; but when they have loſt, ſcruple not to ſtake their wives and children, whom if they loſe, they reſign to the winner, till they can advance as much money as they are ſtaked for. How many Engliſhmen would be glad to game away their wives and never redeem them!

Remarkable Art in the Conſtruction of a Lock.

IN the twentieth year of Queen Elizabeth, Mark Scaliot, a blackſmith, made a lock, conſiſting of eleven pieces of iron, ſteel and braſs; all which, together with a pipe, weighed but one grain of gold.

He made alſo a gold chain, conſiſting of forty-three links; to which having faſtened the lock and key, he put the chain about the neck of a flea, which drew them all with eaſe; and the whole weighed but one grain and a half.

An Archbiſhop's Inſtallation Feaſt, A. D. 1470.

GEORGE NEVIL, brother to the great earl of Warwick, at his inſtallation into the archbiſhoprick of York, 1470, made ſuch an exceſſive feaſt, that it is a wonder how his caterers could think of ſuch great varieties, or where to provide them. Here follows an account of his bill of fare: Three hundred quarters of wheat, three hundred and thirty tuns of ale, one hundred and four tuns of wine, one pipe of ſpiced wine, eighty fat oxen, ſix wild bulls, one thouſand and four weathers, three hundred hogs,

three

three hundred calves, three thouſand geeſe, three thouſand capons, three hundred pigs, one hundred peacocks, two hundred cranes, two hundred kids, two thouſand chickens, four thouſand pigeons, four thouſand rabbits, two hundred and four bitterns, four thouſand ducks, four hundred heronſews, two hundred pheaſants, five hundred patridges, four thouſand woodcocks, four hundred plovers, one hundred curlews, one hundred quails, one thouſand egrets, two hundred rees, above four hundred bucks, does and roebucks, one thouſand five hundred and ſix veniſon paſties, four hundred cold paſties, one thouſand four hundred diſhes of plain jelly, four thouſand cold cuſtards, two thouſand hot cuſtards, three hundred pikes, three hundred breams, eight ſeals, four porpuſſes, and four hundred tarts. The earl of Warwick was ſteward at this prodigious feaſt, the earl of Bedford treaſurer, the lord Haſtings comptroller, with many other noble officers; ſervitors one thouſand, cooks ſixty-two, ſervants in the kitchen five hundred and fifteen. But ſee what this prodigal biſhop came to at laſt; king Edward IV. the then reigning prince, ſeized his whole eſtate, ſent him priſoner to Calais in France, where he ſuffered extreme poverty, as a puniſhment for his former vahity and exceſs.

Numbers of old People attending one Funeral.

IN the year 1700, was buried at Baſriſton, alias Barſton, within five miles of Sandwich in Kent, the miniſter of that pariſh, who was 96 years of age. The funeral ſermon was preached by a clergyman of 82; and the ſervice read by one of 87. The pariſh clerk, the ſexton, and his wife were all preſent, and each above 80; and ſeveral perſons from Cotered, the

the adjoining pariſh, who were invited to the funeral, were above an 100 years old.

A Sermon preached to a Set of Thieves.

THEY tell us a ſtory of Whitney, the famous highwayman, that he and his gang having ſtrolled into Kent, happened to meet a clergyman on the road, whom they robbed, and being as uſual in their frolickſome airs, quoth Whitney, it is a long time, gentlemen, ſince I have heard a ſermon, and therefore deſired the parſon to comply with their humour, and being placed in a hollow tree he made the following diſcourſe.

" Gentlemen, my text is THEFT, which being not to be divided into ſentences and ſyllables, as being but only a monoſyllable; neceſſity therefore obliges me to divide it into letters, which I find to be theſe five; T, H, E, F, T, now T my beloved, is theological, H is hiſtorical, E is exegetical, F is figurative, and T is tropological.

The theological part of my text is according to the effects which it works, which I find to be of two kinds. Firſt, in this world. Secondly, in the world to come. In this world the effects which it works, are T tribulation. H hatred, E envy, F fear, and T torment. For what greater tribulation can happen to any man than to be debarr'd from ſweet liberty, by a cloſe confinement in a naſty priſon which muſt needs be a perfect repreſentation of the iron age, ſince nothing is heard there but the jingling of ſhackles, bolts, grates and keys, as large as that put for a weathercock on St. Peter's ſteeple in Cornhill. I muſt own that you highwaymen are a ſort of chriſtians, whilſt under this tribulation, becauſe ye are a kind of martyrs, and ſuffer really for the truth. Again, ye have the hatred

of

of all honeſt people as well as the envy of jailors, if you come under this juriſdiction without money in your pockets; I am ſure all of your profeſſion are very ſenſible that a jailor expects not only to diſtil money out of your irregularities, but alſo to grow fat by your curſes. Wherefore his ears are ſtopp'd to the cries of others, as God's are to his; and good reaſon, for lay the life of a man in one ſcale, and his fees in another, he would loſe the firſt to find the ſecond. Next you are always in as much fear of being apprehended, as a poor rradeſman in debt is of a ſerjeant, who goes muffled like a thief too, and always carries the marks of one, for he ſteals upon a man cowardly, plucks him by the throat, and makes him ſtand till he fleeces him; but only in this they differ; the thief is more valiant and the honeſteſt man of the two; and then when you are apprehended, nothing but torment enſues, for when once you are clapped up in goal, as I have hinted before, ſoon after ye come under the hangman's clutches, and he hangs you up like ſo many dogs, for uſing thoſe ſcaring words, Stand and deliver.

The effect which theft works in the world to come, are much the ſame with the other, but only as they were temporal, and theſe are eternal. I ſhall proceed to the hiſtorical part of my text, which I will prove, from human hiſtories; that the art of theft is of ſome antiquity, in that Paris ſtole Helen, Theſeus ſtole Ariadne, and Jaſon ſtole Medea. However antiquity ought to be no plea for vice, ſince both divine and human laws forbid baſe actions, eſpecial y theft. For hiſtory again informs us, that Scyron was thrown headlong into the ſea, for thieving; Cacus was kill'd by Hercules, Syſiphus was cut in pieces, Brunellus was hang'd for ſtealing Angelicus' ring; and the emperor Frederick the III. condemn'd all thieves to the gallies.

The

The exegetical part of my text is a ſort of commentary on what was ſaid when I ſet forth, that your tranſgreſſions were a breach both of divine and human ordinances, which are utterly repugnant to all manner of theft, wherefore if ye are reſolved to purſue theſe courſes ſtill, note my reſpect is ſuch to you, for all you have robb'd me, that if you can keep yourſelves from being taken, I'll engage to keep you from being hang'd.

The figurative part of my text is to ſet forth, that though I call you gentlemen, yet in my heart I think you all rogues; but only I mollify my ſpleen by a Charientiſſimus, which is a figure or form of ſpeech mitigating hard matters with pleaſant words. Thus a certain man being apprehended and brought before Alexander the great king of Macedon, for railing againſt him, and being demanded by Alexander why he and his company had ſo done? he made this anſwer, had not the wine failed, we had ſpoken much worſe; wherefore he ſignified thoſe words proceeded rather from wine than malice; by which free and pleaſant confeſſion, he aſſwaged Alexander's great diſpleaſure, and obtained remiſſion.

But now coming to the tropological part of my text, which is drawing a word from its proper and genuine ſignification to another ſenſe, as in calling you moſt famous thieves. I deſire your moſt ſerious attention, and that you will embrace this exhortation of St. Paul the apoſtle, let him that ſtole ſteal no more, or elſe the letters of my text point towards a tragical concluſion, for T take care, H hanging, E ends not, F for ſelony, T at Tyburn,.

This diſcourſe being ended, Whitney and his gang were ſo well pleaſed with the fancy, that they gave him tythe of what they had taken from him, which being 10l. came to juſt 20s. and taking their leave of him, rode away to look out for another booty.

Ridiculous

Ridiculous Oddities ſelected from various Authors.

BEFORE the conqueſt by the Normans, the land in Norfolk was ſo light and fine, that the farmers uſually plough'd it with two rabbits, and a caſe knife. *Jones's wonderful changes, p.* 86.

There are many ſtories told of the craft of the fox, to compaſs his prey: of which Ol. Magnus hath many; ſuch as feigning the barking of dog, to catch prey near the houſes: feigning himſelf dead to catch ſuch animals as come to feed upon him; laying his tail on a waſp's neſt, and then rubbing it hard againſt a tree, and then catching the waſps ſo killed: ridding himſelf of fleas, by gradually going into the water, with a lock of wool in his mouth, and ſo driving the fleas up into it, and then leaving it in the water: by catching crab-fiſh with his tail, which he ſaith he himſelf was a witneſs of. *Derham's Phyſico theology, book* iv. *chap.* 11. *and Ol. Mag. hiſt. lib.* 18. *c.* 39 40.

Had man been a dwarf, he had ſcarce been a rational creature: for he muſt have had a jolt head, ſo there would not have been body and blood enough to ſupply his brain with ſpirits; or he muſt have had a ſmall head anſwerable to his body, and ſo there would not have been brain enough to carry on his buſineſs. *Grew's Coſmol. Sacr. B. I. ch.* 5. *Sect.* 25.

The city of London is the largeſt city in the world and the people of London the wiſeſt. *Wilſon's candid traveller, p.* 42.

One Engliſhman can beat five Frenchmen. *Williamſon's ſerious poſitions, p.* 42.

One Engliſh man of war will beat a Dutch fleet. *Neholt's naval Expedit. chap.* 4. *Sect.* 9.

Among reptiles that have a ſtrange faculty to ſhift for food, &c. may be reckoned eels, which although belonging to the water, can creep on land from pond

to

to pond, &c. Mr. Moſely, of Moſely, ſaw them creep over the meadows, like ſo many ſnakes from ditch to ditch; which he thought was not only for bettering their habitation, but alſo to catch ſnails in the graſs. *Plot's hiſtory of Staffordſhire, c. 7. Sect. 32.*

Had the calf of the leg been providentially and prominently placed before, inſtead of being prepoſterouſly and prejudicially placed behind, it had been evidently better, forafmuch as the human ſhin bone could not have been ſo eaſily broken. *Dr. Mareton's beauty of the human ſtructure, Glaſgow edit. 4to. p. 62.*

It hath indeed been a doubt, nay a matter of much debate among the hiſtorians of the former days, whether Oliver Cromwell was that pious good man he pretended to be? But it is allowed, I think, that he was almoſt continually preaching and praying; and therefore he muſt been a pious man, unleſs we ſuppoſe piety not to conſiſt in fervency, which would be abſurd and ridiculous. *Morgan's caſe fairly ſtated, p. 69.*

Though I have examined what all other authors have wrote on this affair with great partiality, yet I cannot conceive that any of them have the *leaſt merit*, nor do I find one man that has treated this ſubject ſenſibly beſides myſelf. *Smithſon's amiableneſs of candour and diffidence, p. 48.*

A new kind of Poſtage for Letters.

A Maſter of a veſſel a few years ſince, ſailed from Portſmouth for Jamaica, and when he had got ſome leagues on his voyage, recollected a very material affair that he had forgot to acquaint his wife with at his departure.

On this, he immediately wrote a letter to his wife, and rolling it up, put it into a quart bottle, which he tightly

tightly corked and (as the tide drove to the land) threw it into the ſea.

The ſecond day afterwards, as appeared by the date of the letter, the bottle was taken up, as it was floating on the ſea near Falmouth, by a fiſherman, who thought it had been brandy, rum, or ſome other liquor, when on drawing the cork, and ſeeing nothing in it but paper, he broke the bottle to get it out, and finding in it a letter, with a note, deſiring it might be ſent as directed; he took it with him home, and putting it in the poſt-houſe, it ſoon after was delivered to the captain's wife, and that within ten days after it was wrote; ſo that it was in good time to do the buſineſs her huſband had deſired of her in it.

A Hare catched by a Lobſter.

SOME time ago, a fiſher-woman coming to a town with lobſters, happened to loſe one of them out of her panniers upon Killingworth-moor, about three miles off: It lay near the road ſide, till a hare found it, and began to play with it, which the lobſter ſeized by a leg with one of its claws, and kept ſo faſt that the hare was taken and killed.

The Man in a Cage.

HAVING lately paſſed through the town of Dunſtall, in Suffolk, I ſaw a great cage placed in the open ſtreet, in the middle of the town, in which there was a man ſitting in a chair, reading a newspaper. Upon enquiry I found that he had voluntarily confined himſelf in that manner for upwards of thirty-four years; and that he never once went out of his cage, even for a ſingle moment, during all that time;

and though many have endeavoured to perſuade him to quit it, yet no conſideration could ever yet prevail upon him ſo to do.

The cage is juſt big enough for him to live in, and excepting the ſize of it, differs very little from ſome of the common cages that are ſold in London.

The Connoiſſeur in Fiſh.

A Gentleman who reſided at a town, remote from London, being on a viſit to his friend in that city, was entertained with a diſh of excellent mackrel. But diſcovering no great reliſh for them, his friend aſked if he liked that ſort of fiſh? I uſed to like them, he replied, when ſent down to the country; becauſe being four days on the road, they had time to come to their true flavour; but theſe are to me abſolutely inſipid.

Partial Puniſhment among the Ruſſians.

IT is ſaid that the Ruſſian wives are deſirous of being beat by their huſbands, becauſe, ſay they, it is a proof and an effect of the ſtrong paſſion they have for them; the more violent the blows are, the greater they imagine the love and affection of their huſbands to be. Even if a Ruſſian ſhould kill his wife there is no law by which he can be puniſhed, if he affirms that his intention was only to chaſtiſe her: whereas, if a woman was to murder her huſband, ſhe would be buried alive up to her neck, and left to die of hunger and thirſt.

The Power of Love, Mirth and Money.

THE ingenious Sir Richard Steel repreſented the Borough of Stockbridge, in the county of Hants, in parliament; and tho' he was powerfully oppoſed in his election, yet he had a great majority of votes, by a ſtratagem, whsch made all women of his ſide.

Having made a great entertainment for the burgeſſes and their wives, and after having been free and facetious among them, he took up a large apple, and ſticking it full of guineas, declared it ſhould be the prize of that man, whoſe wife ſhould be firſt brought to bed, after that day nine months.

This afforded a great deal of mirth; and what with the entertainment, and the hopes of getting the prize, the good women prevailed on their huſbands to vote for Sir Richard, who they to this day commemorate; and, as it is ſaid, once made a ſtrong *puſh* to get a *ſtanding* order of the corporation made, that no man ſhould be accepted as a candidate for that borough, who did not offer himſelf upon the ſame terms.

The Price of a Repartee.

PHILIP the ſecond of Spain, was a prince of ſuch a nice taſte, that nothing but what was the moſt excellent in its kind could pleaſe him, of which the following ſtory is an example.

A Portugueſe merchant brought to his majeſty a diamond of a very extraordinary luſtre, which all the court highly commended for its beauty, and expected that his majeſty would have done the ſame; but, on the contrary, he condemned and deſpiſed it; not that he affected to be thought wiſer than any of the reſt, but becauſe his mind was ſo clear in the wonderful

productions of nature, that he could not be impoſed on by any thing mean. However, turning to the merchant, he ſays to him, at what price do you value this diamond, ſhould I be minded to purchaſe it? The merchant reply'd, This illuſtrious ſpring of the ſun, I value at 70000 ducats, and whoever buys it at that price will have no reaſon to complain of his bargain. And what was you thinking on, ſaid the king, when you ſet ſo high a price on your diamond? I was thinking, reply'd the merchant, that Philip the ſecond was ſtill alive. At which the king more charm'd with the aptneſs of the expreſſion, than the luſtre of the diamond, ordered him to be paid the money immediately.

Odd and humorous Proof of Strength.

JOHN COURCY, Baron of Courcy, in Somerſetſhire, the firſt Engliſhman that ſubdued Ulſter in Ireland, of which he was created earl, was afterwards ſurprized by Hugh Lacey, brought over to England, and by king John impriſoned in the tower of London.

Some time after the right of French cartel being in diſpute, between France and England, it was agreed to decide the controverſy by ſingle perſons choſen from each kingdom.

Courcy being eminent for his ſtrength and courage, though grown meagre by impriſonment, was ſent for out of the tower to engage the Frenchman.---A large bill of fare was allowed the Engliſh hero to recruit his ſtrength; and Monſieur hearing how much he eat and drank (for he had a great ſtomach) rating his courage by his appetite, took him for a canibal, who would devour him at the laſt courſe, and declined the combat.

The king afterwards, deſirous of ſeeing his ſtrength put to proof, cauſed a ſteel helmet to be laid on a block

block before him. Courcy, looking ſternly about him, ſundred the helmet at one blow, ſtriking his ſword ſo deep into the wood, that none but himſelf could pull it out again.

Being demanded the cauſe of his grim look; he replied, Had I failed of my deſign, I would have killed the king and all preſent.----Words well ſpoken, becauſe well taken; all perſons preſent being then in the height of good humour.

Inſtance of Complaiſance to Queen Elizabeth.

OSTERLY Houſe in Middleſex, was built by Sir Thomas Greſham, who there magnificently entertained queen Elizabeth.——Her majeſty finding fault with the court of this houſe as too large, and affirming that it would appear more commodious, if divided by a wall in the middle.——Sir Thomas, in the night-time, ſent for workmen from London, who ſo ſpeedily and ſilently applied to their buſineſs, that the next morning diſcovered the court double, which the former night had left ſingle.

It was doubted, whether the Queen the next day was more contented with the conformity to her fancy, or more pleaſed with the ſudden performance of it.

The expeditious Traveller.

ON the 17th of July, 1619, one Barnard Calvert of Andover in Hampſhire, for a conſiderable wager ſet out from St. George's Church, Southwark, about three o'clock in the morning, and rode to Dover, where he left his horſe, and took a ſmall veſſel, that was prepared for him, in which he croſſed to Calais; here he refreſhed himſelf a ſhort-time, and

returned again to Dover, where taking his horſe again, he rode back to St. George's Church, from whence he ſat out, in very good ſpirits, before eight o'clock in the evening. He was allowed 18 hours to perform his journey and voyage in, and won his wager by about 50 minutes. A moſt extraordinary inſtance of expedition in that age!

Advertiſement for opening a Scotch Eating-houſe.

Dear Country-folk,

WHAN I conſidered, and rightly weighed the ſwarms o' ye that come t' this toun, and how yer poor diſtreſſed and ſtarved weams want ſic gud and wholeſome meet as ye were uſed to, and beſt agrees wee yer conſtitution; this, I ſay, and the tender love I always had for ye, firſt gar'd me to think, o' ſetting up a North-Country Ordinary, or Scotch-Chocolate-houſe, for the accommodation o' a' that loo'd themſels, and had ony regard for the preſervation o' their ane healths.

But before I wad undertake a thing o' ſae great conſequence, I thought adviſable and beſt, firſt o' a', to adviſe and conſult wi' ſic o' yer ſels as war in toun about it. According I did ſae but, oe' vow! gin ye ſeed the joy and pleſure that appear'd in their countenances, ye wad a thought they wad a louped out o' their ſkins, a' proteſted, and ſweer'd b' the ſals o' their bodies, gin I wad but undertake ſetting up ſic a hooſe, they wad warrant me, that I wad ha' mere buſineſs than a' the eating hooſes o' this heal city o' London, and put them a' the' gether.

But in gud trouth, I am as ald farren as ony o' them a'; and (gin ye'll beleive me) right leath was I to truſt either their eaths or words; for to ſay amang ourſels now, my mean country-foke are a pack o'

paky ſlippery cheels, and hea as gud a warran to play ye a pliſcan, as ony Corniſh or County o' York man, and that's a bald word nou!

But now t' prevent any miſunderſtanding on te ſide or tither, I deſired that they wad come t' fic terms as wan ſecure me frae being a loſer in this affair: they meſt ſolemnly pretefted, and ſweer'd our and our again, that as long as I keeped 'gad ſtirabout, ſowins, and ſkimm'd-milk, they wad ſtick as cloſe t' me as the ſark upon my bak; and therefore begg'd yence more to publiſh t' the warld my Propoſals, and let them ken what they war't hea for their ſiller.

Now, thinks I t' myſell, ye ken weel enough, they are a deviliſh ſide-weam'd pack o' fallows, and wad flou the deel, and a' o' thin meet intil them, ſe I was reſolv'd to conſider it well, and how it wad anſwer; for this I am ſure of, that deel heat they care for the quality, ſe there be but enough o't. And therefore I do propoſe as follows:

PROPOSALS.

I. Stirabout aways to be the ſtanin diſh.

II. There is an ald, and gud ſaying, "that variety is the pleaſure o' this world," and t' pleaſe the palats o' oney yean o' yea that's denty ſtomack'd, ye's ha' lang keal, and hacked keal, and rumbled keal, and Tybos, and apiece o' gud aver bannock, ilkie yean, paying four babees.

III. Now I'm perſuaded, that nene o' ye will want any ſippers, but gin ony o' ye do, there will be enough o' cald meet left, and that he's hae for nething, and gin that wonnot pleaſe, ye's get a wee wheen ſowins and othem and opothem t' ſup, till ye caſt again.

IV. On the Sabbath, when come frae the preechin, ye's get a gud ſinged ſheep's-heed, wi' ilkey yen a bicker o'barley broſe, and a haggis o' our ane gud

wife's making; and tho' I ſay't, that ſhou'd na ſay't, there is'nt a better kook in a' the heal town; and the deel gee her thanks, for ſhe was born at Arintow. And as for the making o' a haggis, ſtirabout, ſouins, bannocks, or been meel and maſlin puddens, ſhell turn her back t' nene that ever weer'd a heed between the ſhoulders o' them.

N. B. Ye mun underſtand, that on this day ye'r to hea ne ſtirabout, when they are ſic denties, and ilkie body mun add a babee mere.

V. That I will ſettle a correſpondence wi' the Leigth merchants, t' ſend me a heal bark landned we oten meal, and ſouin ſeeds.

VI. Gud meet a'ways deſerve gud drink, and that I's warrant ye ſhall ne be wautin; for I will agree wi' a brewer for all his tiſan; they ca' it here in this toun taplaſh, beſides whigg, whey, buttermilk, ſouin ſheyrins, ſcridah, ſputrah, and jut, adding yae babee mere.

VII. That hooſe furniture will be provided, and gotten in order for accommodating o' a' my gueſts, I'll hea a gud mickle pot, ſpurtles o' a' ſizes, bickers, trinchers, coges, kimlins, horn ſpoons, cutties, fourms, haſſacks, three-legged ſtools, &c. for nethin ſhall be wantin. As for a jack and ſpeets, ſhall hea ne occaſion for.

VIII. By what is propoſed, let me ſee wha can live ſo cheap, and at ſe ſma charges? That ilka ane mae gang hem t' their beds ev'ry night fartin foo, for ne mare than ſix babees a day.

IX. For the further encouragement o' a' my freens, they ſhall be ſhav'd and powder'd on the Saturday wee gud oat meal, and a bit o' the North-Country butter, and that will anſwer in the place of powder and oil.

X. I ſhall ſay ne mere upon this heed for the preſent, but gin I find it will anſwer, wha kens, but we

may

may reech to a bit o' roaſt meet at laſt. I had a-meſt forgotten to acquaint ye, that ye's hea gud attendance, for Jannet and myſelf will do that, for nae laſſes will I keep; Batty and Spotty, I's warrant ye, will keep a' clean, and live brawly.

The followin honeſt bodies that war in toun, wee joy free the very ſals o' them, ſubſcribe their names as follows.

Robert Mc. Mufty,
Jonney Mc. Guſty, &c. &c.

The odd Genealogy of a Jacobite.

THE devil begot ſin, ſin begot error, error begot pride, pride begot ignorance, ignorance begot blind zeal, blind zeal begot ſuperſtition, ſuperſtition begot prieſt-craft, prieſt-craft begot lineal ſucceſſion, lineal ſucceſſion begot undeniable character, undeniable character begot blind obedience, and blind obedience begot falſe worſhip, falſe worſhip begot infallibility, infallibility begot the pope and his brethren in the time of Egyptian darkneſs, the pope begot purgatory, purgatory begot auricular confeſſion, auricular confeſſion begot renouncing of reaſon, renouncing of reaſon begot contempt of the ſcriptures, contempt of the ſcriptures begot implicit faith, implicit faith begot carnal policy, carnal policy begot unlimited paſſive obedience, unlimited paſſive obedience begot non-reſiſtance, non-reſiſtance begot oppreſſion, oppreſſion begot faction, faction begot patriotiſm, patriotiſm begot oppoſition to all the meaſures of the miniſtry, oppoſition begot diſaffection, diſaffection begot diſcontent, diſcontent begot a tory, a tory begot a Jacobite on the body of the whore of Babylon, when ſhe was paſt child-bearing.

Comical

Comical Account of a Brewer's Drayman.

A Young man paſſing by Exeter Change, was accoſted by a brewer's ſervant, who had pitched his butts upon the foot-path, deſiring he would write upon the head of one of them, " Gone to Beaufort-buildings," with a piece of chalk, which he gave him; for, ſays the man, it is my misfortune, neither to read nor write, though my fellow-ſervant can, who I am waiting for. The young man taking the advantage of this, inſtead of writing what he was deſired, wrote in large letters, " Gone to the Gallows," and deſired the Drayman to ſee if that would do; who forgetting what he had ſaid, immediately caſt his eyes upon the writing, and repeated the words, Gone to Beaufort-buildings, with all the air and propriety of a good reader, ſaying, Thank you, young man----this is very right---this will do very well—I am obliged to you---now my fellow-ſervant, when he comes, will know where I am gone---ſo, if he's a mind he may *come after me.*

The Matrimonial Creed.

WHOEVER will be married, before all things it is neceſſary, that he hold the conjugal faith in this, That there were two rational beings created, both equal, and yet one ſuperior to the other; and the inferior ſhall bear rule over the ſuperior: which faith, except every one do keep whole and undefiled, without doubt, he ſhall be *ſcolded at* ever-laſtingly.

The man is ſuperior to the woman, and the woman is inferior to the man; yet both are equal, and the woman ſhall govern the man.

The

The woman is commanded to obey the man, and the man ought to obey the woman.

And yet there are not two obedients, but one obedient.

For there is one dominion *nominal* of the husband, and another dominion *real* of the wife:

And yet there are not two dominions, but one dominion.

For, like as we are compelled by the christian verity to acknowledge, That wives must submit themselves to their husbands, and be subject to them in all things:

So are we forbidden by the conjugal faith to say, That they should be at all influenced by their wills, or pay any regard to their commands.

The man was not created for the woman, but the woman for the man:

Yet the man shall be the slave of the woman, and the woman the tyrant of the man:

So that in all things, as is aforesaid, the subjection of the superior to the inferior, is to be believed.

He therefore that will be married, must thus think of the woman, and the man.

Furthermore, it is necessary to submissive matrimony, that he also believe rightly the infallibility of the wif:

For the right faith is, that we believe and confess, that the wife is fallible and infallible:

Perfectly fallible, and perfectly infallible; of an erring soul, and unerring mind subsisting: fallible as touching her human nature, and infallible as touching her female sex.

Who, although she be fallible, and infallible; yet she is not two, but one woman: who submitted to lawful marriage, to acquire unlawful dominion: and promised religiously to obey, that she might rule in injustice and folly.

This

This is the conjugal faith; which except a man believe faithfully, he cannot enter the (MISERable) ſtate of matrimony.

Odd Prophecy concerning the Death of the Earl of KILDARE, *and his Brothers.*

THERE had long been a prophecy current in Ireland concerning the Kildare family, that ſeven brothers belonging to it ſhould go to England in a cow's belly, and never come back again.

The earl of Kildare having raiſed a rebellion in Ireland, with the aſſiſtance of his ſix brothers, were ſubdued by the Engliſh, and carried over to England to take their trials.

One of them recollecting the prophecy, relating to their family, aſked the maſter of the veſſel which carried them the name of his ſhip, and being told that it was called the Cow, he immediately concluded that the voyage would prove fatal to them; he gueſſed right; for upon their arrival they were all tried for their rebellion, and being found guilty of high treaſon they were beheaded on Tower-hill.

A clear Caſe in Law.

WILLIAM having received a letter from Sarah, written by Charles, ſhewed the ſame to Roger, who, on peruſal, ſaid, He wondered that Richard ſhould be ſo indiſcreet as to quarrel with James about Abigal, who was ſo extreme ugly, and conſequently ſhocking; becauſe that Edward had refuſed, though aſked to go to the play with Catharine.

Whereupon Philip, falling in a paſſion with Titus, ſwore he would be revenged on Patrick, and therefore

called

called Thomas rogue, raſcal, &c. Stephen, who he thought was an eye-witneſs to the abuſe, and being Chriſtopher's friend, ſlyly tripped up Rowland's heels, and broke Jeremiah's head. Cuthburt on this drew his dagger at Edward; and Archibald, trembling, with much ado, recovered his fright, reaſſumed his natural intrepidity, and in a cold ſweat ſnatched Gilbert's piſtol from Lawrence, and cocked his blunderbuſs at Paul.

Whereat John being amazed, after ſome conſideration, ſecretly adviſed Samuel to apply to Leonard, with the help of George, privately to make an affidavit againſt Arthur, to take out a writ againſt Henry and Rachael, at the ſuit of Timothy, executor of the laſt will and teſtament of Jacob. But Peter objected to that, wiſely alledging that Robert being ſick, had ſent word to David, who was lately married to Hannah, to deſire Jeffery, who had been taken in bed with Mark's wife, to ſend his grandſon Ralph to his couſin Bridget, earneſtly to intreat his nephew Joſhua, to go along with his brother Frank to make up the matter, amicably with his aunt Suſan. But ſhe refuſed to go with Jack.

Yet nevertheleſs, recommended Frederick and Humphrey to Andrew, Simon and Luke; who after a long and grave conſultation, ordered the muſic to play briſkly, and then went unanimouſly to Bartholomew.

So that having drank plentifully at Ned's, 'till they were all intoxicated, having nothing to pay their ſhot with, they drew their ſwords at Dick the landlord, ſtabbed Robin, fell upon Lancelot, lamed Iſaac, and had it not been for Solomon, had ſlain Cornelius.

Thereupon Nat ruſhed forward, and ſwearing at Marmaduke, who had been aſleep all the time in Sally's lap, ſo incenſed Walter and Martin, that Miles and Zachariah, without any regard to Mathew, threw bottles,

bottles, glaſſes, &c. at one anothers heads. At which Abraham, who was Moll's bully, being enraged, took Benjamin civilly by the throat, kicked Theophilus gently down ſtairs, picked Abel's pocket, while he was making his addreſſes to Nell; and at the ſame time in the higheſt fury imaginable, ſmiling, calmly ſent Barnaby, Toby and Giles, to the round-houſe.

At which Athony, half drunk, ſoberly ſtarted up, and having firſt reeled two or three times about the room, put on an important wiſe look, made a fine ſpeech, nothing to the purpoſe, and then aſked What was the matter? Whereupon Bryan, in a low voice, loudly whiſpered Aaron, and perceiving that Alexander was ſtrangled, aſtoniſhed at their ſilent noiſe, told Francis, that his great grand-father Joſeph was dead. At which unexpected news Nicholas awaked; and being in an ill humour writ a ſoft love ſong, whiſtled an opera air, and then withdrew to a neighbouring ale-houſe to drink a diſh of chocolate with Dudley. Which exaſperated Job in ſo ſurprizing a manner, that none of the company wondered at it; only indeed Valentine, in the height of his reſentment could not forbear going to hang himſelf.

However Allen ran undeſignedly to the goal, in order to let out the aforeſaid priſoners; and having without any noiſe, broke open the doors, freed Gerrard, Margery and Betty, who being apprehended at King's, by the timely aſſiſtance of Bernard, were carried next morning before Hugh Noble, Eſq; a trading juſtice in St. Giles's, and upon paying one ſhilling a piece, the whole affair was happily determined.

The ridiculous reſemblance between two Brothers.

TWO brothers who lived together, reſembled each other extremely, and bore the ſame name. A man deſired to ſpeak with one of them. Which do you aſk for? ſaid the porter. The counſellor, anſwered the man. They are both counſellors, anſwered the porter. Then him that ſquints a little, ſaid the man. They both ſquint, anſwered the porter. Him that hath a handſome wife. Both their wives are handſome, returned the porter. Well then he who is a cuckold, ſaid the man. By my faith, ſir, anſwered the porter, I take them both to be cuckolds. Well, ſaid the man, theſe two brothers are ſtrangely fated ſo to reſemble one another.

A real Oddity, being the Order of the Horſe-ſhoe.

AT Okeham, in the county of Rutland, is a very antient cuſtom, which is ſtill kept up, viz. That every peer of the realm, the firſt time he comes thro' this town, ſhall give a horſe-ſhoe to nail on the caſtle-gate, and if he refuſe, the bailiff of the manor, has power ro ſtop his coach, and take one off from one or other of his horſes; but this is generally compounded for in money, and in proportion to the ſum given, a ſhoe is made bigger or leſs, with the donor's name, and the date of the gift ſtamped on it, and then nailed to the caſtle-hall gate: ſome of theſe horſe-ſhoes are gilt, and curiouſly wrought, and over the judge's ſeat, where he ſits at the aſſizes, there is one of very curious workmaaſhip, which is five feet and a half in length, and of a proportionable breadth. 'Tis not doubted, but this cuſtom is derived from the antient lords of the town of Ferrer's family, whoſe arms

are

are three horſe-ſhoes, and whoſe name imparts ſmiths, or workers in iron, who are the horſe-ſhoe makers.

Eccleſiaſtical Wit.

DR. Andrew Perne, Dean of Ely, a man of keen wit, happened to call a clergyman fool (who it ſeems was little better); the parſon reply'd, that he would complain thereof to the biſhop of Ely.---"Do ſaid the dean, when you pleaſe; and my lord biſhop will confirm you."

An odd Wiſh of King JAMES *the firſt.*

WHEN king James came firſt to the public library at Oxford, ſeeing the little chains with which the books were faſtened to their reſpective places; he wiſhed, that if ever it ſhould be his deſtiny to be made a priſoner, that library might be his priſon, thoſe books his fellow-priſoners, and thoſe chains his fetters.

The Corniſh Cavalcade.

ONE Eaſter-Sunday the freeholders of the town and manor of Foy, in Cornwall, by themſelves or deputies do there aſſemble; amongſt whom, as it falls to his lot, by ballot, one bravely apparelled, and gallantly mounted, with a crown on his head, a ſcepter in his hand, a ſword borne before him, and dutifully attended by all the reſt, who are alſo on horſeback, rides through the principal ſtreet to the church: here they are met by the curate of the pariſh, who is truſſed up to the chin in his beſt church buckram, at the

the church-yard ſtile, and conducted to hear divine ſervice.

After which, the hero of the day repairs with his attendants to a houſe provided for that purpoſe, and a plentiful feaſt being prepared, he ſits at the upper end of the table, is ſerved with kneeling, and all other rights due to the eſtate of a prince; with which dinner the ceremony ends, and every man returns home again.

The pedigree of this cuſtom is derived from ſo many deſcents of ages, that the cauſe and author out-reach remembrance; but theſe circumſtances afford a conjecture, that it ſhould betoken royalties appertaining to the honour of Cornwall.

The long-lived Lady.

SIR Walter Raleigh in his hiſtory of the world avers, That he was acquainted with the old counteſs of Deſmond of Inchequine, in the province of Munſter, in the kingdom of Ireland, who lived in the year 1589, and for a long time after; whoſe nuptials were ſolemnized in the reign of king Edward IV. and kept her jointure, which was a great part of the family eſtate, from all the earls of Deſmond, for upwards of one hundred years: and lord Bacon adds, that this lady was at leaſt 140 years of age, and that after caſting her teeth, new ones came ſeveral times.

Eccleſiaſtical Riches.

THE French clery, ſays the hiſtorian Boilard, who wrote upwards of one hundred years ago, poſſeſs 3000 lordſhips, in which they have the chief power of exerciſing poli ical juſtice; and beſides

thoſe, 240,000 country villages: 7000 acres of vineyard; beſides the tythes they receive from other vineyards; 125,000 fiſh-ponds, and 90,000 acres of meadow ground. He adds, that the eccleſiaſtical men in France in his time, did annually conſume 4,500,000 meaſures of pure wheat, each meaſure containing 600lb. weight; 900,000 meaſures of oats; 800,000 of barley; 860,000 of peaſe; 180,000 fat capons; 560,000 hens; 600,000 patridges; 12,500 fat oxen; 12,000 fat weathers; and 7,000,000 of eggs; beſides all other proviſions.

The patient Huſband.

THE wife of Dr. Cowper, biſhop of London, committed to the flames the productions of eight years ſtudy, leſt he ſhould injure his health by too aſſiduous application. Though the prelate was obliged to devote another eight years to the compilation of the remarks, which his wife had deſtroyed, ſo aſtoniſhing was his patience, that he uttered not an unkind word on that account.

The odd Family.

IN the Reign of King William the Third, there lived at Ipſwich in Suffolk, a family, which from the number of pecularities belonging to it, was diſtinguiſhed by the name of the ODD FAMILY.----Every event, remarkably good or bad, happened to this family in an odd year, or on an odd day of the month ——and every one of them had ſomething odd in his or her perſon, manner and behaviour. The very letters of their Chriſtian names always happened to be of an odd number. The huſband's name was Peter,

and

and the wife's Rahab; they had ſeven children, all boys, &c. Solomon, Roger, James, Matthew, Jonas, David and Ezekial. The huſband had but one leg, and his wife but one arm. Solomon was born blind of his left eye, and Roger loſt his right eye by accident, James had his left ear pulled off by a boy in a quarrel, and Matthew was born with only three fingers on his right-hand, Jonas had a ſtump foot, and David was hump-backed: all theſe, except David were remarkably ſhort, and Ezekial was ſix feet two inches high at the age of nineteen. The ſtump-footed Jonas, and the hump-backed David got wives of fortune, but no girl would liſten to the addreſſes of the reſt. The huſband's hair was as black as jet, and the wife's as remarkably white, yet every one of the children were red-hair'd. The huſband had the peculiar misfortune of falling into a deep ſawpit, where he was ſtarved to death in the year 1701, and the wife refuſing all kind of ſuſtenance, died in five days after him. In the year 1703, Ezekiel enliſted as a grenadier, and although he was afterwards wounded in twenty-three places, he recovered. Roger, James, Matthew, Jonas and David, died at different places on the ſame day in the year 1713——and Solomon and Ezekiel were drowned together in croſſing the Thames in the year 1723.

Another Inſtance of Peculiarities in a Family.

THERE is now living at Newbury in Berkſhire, a lady who is one of ſixteen children by the ſame father and mother——Eight of whom were tall, and eight were ſhort——eight were boys and eight were girls——eight were twins, and eight born ſingly——eight were fair, and eight were of a very dark complexion——eight ſpoke French and eight did not——

eight were good dancers, and eight could not dance at all; and eight could ſing well and play on ſome inſtrument, while the other eight had no muſical abilities.

The old Wet Nurſe.

THE ingenious and learned Mr. Oldenburg, has given us a relation, which he received from a gentlemen of great veracity in Germany. This ſaid gentleman, in the year 1674, took a wet-nurſe for his infant daughter; the nurſe had a ſon, whom ſhe weaned on that occaſion, and left him to the care of her mother; and the boy by repeated ſucking of the breaſts of his grandmother, who was upwards of ſixty years of age, raiſed ſuch a commotion in the old woman, that abundance of milk flowed into her breaſts, ſufficient for the nouriſhment of the ſaid boy.

The black and white Devil of Wandſworth.

IN the year 1720, the inhabitants of Wandſworth, in Surry, were alarmed every night, by the appearance of a figure, to which rhey gave the name of "The black and white Devil." It had a monſtrous large head, ſmoke in great quantities iſſued from its mouth, it had eyes of fire.——Its head and neck appeared white——from the bottom of the neck to the navel was black, from the navel to the middle of the thigh was white, and from thence to the knees black, and the whole body of a gigantic ſize. This figure uſually played his pranks from eight o'clock to ten in the evening, going from houſe to houſe, lifting the latches of the doors, and entering without any ceremony. It would ſkip about the rooms for a minute or

two,

two, and then return the ſame way it came, or leap out of the window.

It was more than a month that the inhabitants had been terrified with this ſpectre, before any one had courage to attempt a diſcovery of what it really was, till one George Walker, a labourer, whoſe houſe had been frequently haunted, determined to be better acquainted with this familiar Devil—for which purpoſe he one night nailed up his window, to prevent his infernal majeſty's eſcape----and, waiting the uſual hour of viſitation, he placed himſelf behind the door, when our dexterous devil attempted to jump out of the window; but being diſappointed in the attempt, he dropped down on his knees, and begged for mercy, declaring he was a lad of ſeventeen years old, a boarder at a neighbouring ſchool The pardon was granted on condition that his worſhip would leave his black and white ſhell behind him, and diſcover the arts by which he had terrified the neighbours---he complied, and it appeared that the whole wardrobe of the devil conſiſted of ſeveral ſheets of fine writing paper curiouſly paſted together,, and adapted to the ſhape of the wearer; the eyes were formed by two glaſſes curiouſly fixed in the head, and the ſmoke which iſſued from his mouth was that of a pipe of tobacco, which he ſmoaked under his exterior head-piece; the parts of his body which appeared black, were occaſioned by thick brown paper paſted beneath the white, and the eyes of flaming fire were the conſequence of a very ſmall wax candle which he held up to the glaſſes, and yet not ſo as to burn his head-piece.——This diſcovery gave general ſatisfaction; and the inhabitants of Wandſworth ſlept in peace.

The wonderful Ape of Merſailes.

APES have an extraordinary nack of mimicking human actions, of which the following hiſtory affords many remarkable inſtances.

A gentleman of Merſailes having bought one to divert his children, it played ſeveral of the moſt comical tricks imaginable. Among others, having one day obſerved the maid giving pap to the children, it took a fancy to do the like.

One Sunday the whole family being gone to church, the maid having left a ſaucepan full of pap near the fire, the Ape took it; and going up to the child, ſo bedaub'd its face, that it was impoſſible to diſtinguiſh its noſe from its eyes. Then he took the child's cloaths in order to dreſs it, as the maid uſed; but this he did in a very aukward manner, putting the child's feet into the ſleeves of the coat, and the arms where the legs ſhould have been; ſo that nothing could make a more groteſque appearance than the child thus dreſſed by the Ape. The child being thus oddly muffled, cried out as loud as it could bawl, which made the unlucky animal leave it as it was.

Juſt then the maid came from church, and ſeeing the child ſo accoutred, made more exclamations, and more ſigns of the croſs, than would have been ſufficient to drive the devil out of the body of one poſſeſſed. After having quieted the child a little, ſhe aſked it who had dreſſed it in that manner? The child who was ſcarce thsee years of age, made the beſt anſwer it could.

Soon after the father and mother came home, and ſeeing the child in the ſame plight that the maid had found it, were as much amazed, as if they had dropt from the clouds. The father however, who had more ſenſe than the mother, immediately concluded that it

was

was the ape's doings, and could not refrain from laughter; but the mother taking the thing ſeriouſly, was for having the ape killed without delay, for fear it ſhould play her children ſome worſe trick another time. The huſband however would not conſent to this; but the ape lived to play many ſtranger pranks, as will appear from the ſequel.

One day the people of the houſe being gone to take a walk, the ape took a frolick to unty itſelf, and ſhave the cat, as he had ſeen the barber who came there every Sunday ſhave a gentleman who lived in the houſe. In order to effect this, he tied the paws of the cat to the arms of the chair with ſtrings, which he took from the child's cradle; then he went and took a dirty diſh-clout, which he found in the kitchen, and put it about the cat's neck; then he took a diſh full of black-ball, and throwing a little water upon it, went to waſh the face of the cat, which ſet up a terrible howling, whilſt the ape waſhed it to ſuch a purpoſe, that nothing appeared but the eyes; that done, he clipped her beard with a bad pair of ſciſſars which he found on the table, then he begun to play a thouſand gambols about the room, over-turning every thing that came in his way.

The gentleman ſoon returning with his company, laughed till he was ready to ſplit his ſides, upon ſeeing the cat in ſuch a pickle, and called in his neighbours that they might partake of his pleaſure, and ſee the ſurprizing feats of the ape.

The gentleman however being at laſt apprehenſive that this animal might occaſion ſome greater diſorder in his houſe, during his abſence, ſent him for a time to the houſe of one of his tenants, who had no children, enjoining him to take particular care of the animal.

The farmer had not kept him above a month, when he occaſioned him the loſs of about 50 livers,

ſometimes he pulled up the peaſe and beans in his garden, ſometimes he broke the earthen ware, and ſometimes he pulled the tiles off his houſe. In a word he played all ſorts of unlucky tricks.

Being at laſt grown tired of his gueſt, he went to town on a market day, in his cart, in which he plac'd a fat hog, a rundlet of wine, and the ape, whibh he intended to return to his maſter. The unlucky animal was conſtantly ſcratching the hog's hind parts with his fingers, and perceiving that he farted by the way, took a wiſp of ſtraw to cork him up, but finding that was not ſufficient to prevent his farting, he pulled the ſpigot out of the tun, in order to do it effectually. In the mean time the wine ran out of the tun, without the farmer's ever taking notice of it, till he arrived in town, when he perceived that the veſſel was quite empty; he did not however know how to account for it, not thinking that the ape had play'd him this trick; but when he came to ſell his hog, he found the ſpigot ſtill ſticking faſt where the ape had put it, which ſo enraged him, that if he had not been afraid of diſobliging his maſter, he would have killed the ape on the ſpot.

Having diſpoſed of his hog, he went to the gentleman's, in order to return him his ape, and begged he would excuſe him for not keeping him any longer, on account of the unlucky tricks he was conſtantly playing. The gentleman concerned to find that his ape was ſo very vicious, was reſolved to get rid of it at any rate.

Having cauſed it to be chained with an iron chain in his apartment, in order to prevent his doing any miſchief. He happened ſoon after to be ſeized with the cholic, which tormented him very much, he therefore ſent for a phyſician, who immediately cauſed a medicine to be prepared for him, ordered the apothecary to carry it to him next morning, the apothe-

cary

cary did as he was directed; but having found the gentleman in a ſound ſleep, he did not care to awake him, but left the medicine in a ſilver cup upon the table, and bid the valet de chambre give it to his maſter as ſoon as ever he awoke.

The ape having got looſe, mounted upon the table and finding the medicine very palatable, ſwallowed it in a moment. The medicine being of a laxative nature, the ape began to let fly about the chamber, and to run about, overturning every thing that came in his way. The gentleman hearing the noiſe, awaked all of a ſudden, and ſeeing the odd poſtures and ſtrange grimaces of the ape, was ſeized with a ſudden fit of laughter, that he found himſelf a great deal better the day following. The matter came to be known all over the town, and cauſed much laughter.

The chief commander of the gallies, who was then at Merſailes, hearing of the pleaſant feats of this ape, bought it of the gentleman, but he did not keep it a long time, for this extraordinary ape hearing the guns fired upon Mr. Gulfe's entering the harbour of Merſailes, got looſe one day, and went upon the walls of the city with a fire-brand, and meeting with a large piece of cannon, immediately clapped the fire-brand to its touch-hole. Whilſt the priming was taking fire, he ran to the mouth of the cannon, to ſee what would come out, but the piece then going off, the ape was blown away, and never heard of after.

Such was the end of the wonderful ape of Merſailes.

The Calf-ſtealer reclaim'd.

JAMES WHITNEY, of Stevenage in Hertfordſhire, was by trade a butcher, but ſoon after he had ſerved his apprenticeſhip, took to buying cattle, and

and ſelling them again in markets. But being a profligate fellow, he ſoon took to thieving, and became as notorious a robber as the age produced. Going into Eſſex, with a brother of the trade, as looſe a fellow as himſelf to buy calves, there was one calf that he had a particular fancy to, but the owner inſiſting upon an extraordinary price for it, they did not agree, upon which ſays Whirney to his comrade, why ſhould we be ſo much money out of pocket, which at preſent is ſomewhat ſhort with us, when perhaps we might get the calf for nothing at night? His comrade approved of the project, ſo they ſat drinking in Rumford, till it was time to put their project in execution, but an unlucky accident prevented their deſign.

The man that owned the calf, kept a public-houſe a little way out of the town, and a fellow came to the houſe in the evening with a bear, which he made a ſhow of up and down the country, and putting into the man's houſe to lodge, and being at a loſs for ſome place to put up his bear, the maid contrived that ſhe would put up the calf in part of the ſpare ſtable and put the bear in the ſtall where the calf ſtood. Accordingly the bear was put there, and in the middle of the night Whitney and his comrade went to ſteal the calf. Getting into the ſtall with as little noiſe as poſſible, and groping in the dark for the calf, at laſt he got hold of the bear, and tickling it to make it riſe, diſturb'd the bear, which rouſing up on her hind legs got Whitney in her fore-paws, and gave him a hug. The other butcher being out upon the ſcout, wondered that Whitney did not come away with the calf.

At length being tired with expectation, with a low voice ſays to him, what a pox will you be all night a getting the calf. A calf, quoth Whitney, I believe I have got the devil here, for he hugs me as cloſe as

he

he did the witch. Says the other butcher again, prithee bring him away then if you have found him. I can't, ſays Whitney. Says his companion, then come away yourſelf. But ſays Whitney, he won't let me. Upon this his comrade goes in, and finding how the matter was, got him releaſed. The bear being very tame, had done him no great harm, but being got out of her clutches, he forſwore ever going a calf-ſtealing again; and from that time was as good as his word.

Perfumed Soap not agreeable to all Palates.

ONE Saturday, in the month of October laſt, in the duſk of the evening, a fidler went into a barber's ſhop, at the weſt end of the town, and deſired the boy to cut his hair, which he immediately did, when the fidler having no ſilver, deſired the boy to get him change for a guinea; which whilſt he was doing, the fidler took an opportunity to eaſe himſelf in a baſon, decorated with the ſhaving apparatus, which laid in the ſink in a corner of the ſhop. The boy returning, was followed in by a publican in the neighbourhood, who deſired to be ſhaved directly, when having gave the fidler his change, the honeſt ſcraper departed, and the boy immediately went about to light a candle, which the publican not permitting him to do, being in great haſte, the boy ran to the ſink, and raiſed a lather in the baſon, wherein the fidler had dropt his excrement, and began to lather the publican rapidly therewith, who being almoſt overcome with the ſtench, ſuppoſing he had made uſe of perfumed ſoap, roared out luſtily, Zounds! lather me with a little common ſoap, for I hate your perfumed wash-balls.

The boy ſtruck with ſo ſudden an eclat, ran and fetch'd a candle, and ſoon diſcovered the cauſe of his outcry,

outcry, when wiping clean the publican's beard, and lathering him with good ſweet ſoap he ſhav'd him to his ſatisfaction.

An odd Appearance of a dead Dog.

A Few years ſince, Mr. John Pratt, a wealthy farmer and gardener, on Loom-pit-hill, near Newcroſs, by Deptford in Kent, had a maſtiff dog in his farm yard, who happened to bite a traveller, was ordered by his maſter to be hanged on a tree in his garden.

When he was cut down (having hung more than an hour) the ſervants flayed his ſkin off, without cutting any other part of the body, and buried him in an adjacent dunghill.

The day following, as ſome of the huſbandmen were turning up the dung, the dog who was buried the foregoing day, ſtruggled his way out of it, in ſeeming good ſpirits, and ran into the dwelling-houſe to the great terr r and ſurprize of all that ſaw him, but was immediately knock'd on the head without doing any further damage.

A Fart makes a Queen.

A Lawyer's clerk was in love with an extreme pretty girl, courted her, and agreed to marry her. The wedding entertainment was provided, and amongſt others the clerk's maſter was invited. In the heat of dancing, a ſigh, cauſed by indigeſtion, or windy food, eſcaped the bride the contrary way, and loud enough to be heard by all the company, who burſt into a laughter; ſhe bluſhed, and the bridegroom was ſo confounded and enraged, that he inſtantly broke

broke off the match, to which no remonſtrances or entreaties could reconcile him. He imagined his acquaintance would jeer him for ever upon this accident, and he left the houſe in a pet. Great was now the diſorder of the gueſts, the clerk's maſter, who was one of them, and though a man in years, had eyed the girl with great attention, and was ſmitten with her beauty, not only condemned his clerk's exceſſive delicacy, but propoſed to repair the injury he had done the girl, and offered her marriage on the ſpot. Piqued at her lover's deſertion, and preſſed by her friends, who foreſaw the advantages of ſuch a match, ſhe conſented, and they were married immediately. After marriage, ſhe behaved to him with ſo much modeſty and diſcretion, that dying ſoon after, he left her miſtreſs of an opulent fortune. Being now a widow, handſome, young and rich, ſhe had many offers of marriage, but accepted only of the marſhal De L'Hoſpitals, governor of Paris; who alſo dying ſoon after, left her once more a widow, though with greater additions of honour than of fortune. Her perſon and character were now ſo amiable, that Caſimir, king of Poland, reſiding in France, after his abdication of the throne, fell in love with her, and married her. So great a fortune, perhaps, never took its riſe from a FART.

A Man cuts off his own Head.

THERE is a great emulation between certain mountaineers in India, and the people on the coaſt; the latter continually going up to the mountains to dare the inhabitants there, to do as they do; and the mountaineers on their part, as frequently come down to the coaſt, with defiances of the ſame nature. Amongſt others there once came down a man

on

on this errand, and having gathered a number of the inhabitants of the coasts about him, who came as well out of curiosity to see the sight, as with intent to imitate him; he told them to do what he was about to perform; or if they despaired of doing it, acknowledge themselves overcome. He sat himself down in a place, planted with canes, and directed them to bend one of them to the ground. These canes are like sugar canes, bend like them, and have a very large stem: when they are laid hold on at top, they obey and stoop to the ground: but as soon as they are let go, they violently fly up to their first rectitude. One of the largest of these he caused to be bowed down to his heighth, and fastened his hair strongly thereto; when taking in hand his sabre, which sparkled like fire, so keen it was, he said to those about him, "I am going to cut my head off with this sabre,——as soon as it is severed from my body, let go the cane; and when it flies up with my head, I will laugh and so you shall hear me do." He did so: the people of the coast had not the courage to imitate him. The person who related these things to us did it without *emotion* or *wonder*, and in our times these facts are very generally *known*, for in this part of the *Indies* is the neighbourhood of the country of the *Arabs*, tho' we *hear* from thence but seldom.

The expeditious Painter.

A Certain nobleman having built a chapel, had a mind the stair-case leading to it should be ornamented with some scripture history---which he at last determined should be the Children of Israel passing through the Red-Sea, and the Egyptians pursuing them.——A painter was employ'd upon this occasion, and fell to work immediately; and after he had daub'd the

the wall from top to bottom with red paint, he called to his lordſhip, and told him the work was done.——Done! qu th the peer---What's done? Where are the Children of Iſrael? My lord, they are gone over, replies the repreſentor.---But, zounds, where are the Egyptians then? They are drowned, replied bruſh.

The ſtrange Adventures of TOM. BENNET, *(written by himſelf.)*

AT the age of four years, I fell from the tail of a cart in the town of Dartford, and another cart following at the inſtant of my fall, the wheel went over my head, which having in the fall ſlipped between two large ſtones, the weight of the wheel was born by the ſtones, and I eſcaped unhurt.

At ſix years of age, I fell into a river at Dartford, and was taken out and recovered after being full twenty minutes in the water. About ſix months after this accident, I fell from a window two ſtories high, broke my right arm and fractured my ſkull; but by the care of a ſkilful ſurgeon, I recovered.——Before I had compleated my eighth year, my mother having occaſion to go to London, took me with her in the coach---there were three paſſengers beſides us: juſt as we reached the top of Shuter's-hill, the horſes took fright, and galloping at full ſpeed down the hill, they attempted to turn ſhort at the bottom of the road which leads to Eltham: the coach was overſet---the coachman thrown from his box, and much bruiſed, and the other paſſengers all killed---my left arm and right thigh were broke---but a ſhopkeeper of Dartford coming by at the time, took me home with him, and I was once more recovered to live to encounter greater diſaſters.

I was

I was no ſooner recovered from the injuries I received by the accident at the bottom of Shuter's-hill, than it was thought adviſeable to put me to a boarding-ſchool---I was accordingly ſent to Bromley---Where as ſoon as my years would permit me among the bigger boys, I diſtinguiſhed myſelf at the game of cricket, which is much practiſed throughout the county of Kent: at this game it happened, that I received a blow from the fall of a ball, which beat out my right eye, and laid my noſe almoſt level with my face. I was ſcarce abroad again after this accident, than regardleſs of the many diſaſters which had befallen me, I climbed a high tree, in ſearch of a neſt of young rooks.---No ſooner had I got my hand into the neſt than the twig on which I ſtood broke, and down I fell, but not to the bottom, my fate was always to encounter the utmoſt danger, but never to be quite killed.---A good natured branch of a tree, catched hold of the waiſtband of my breeches and ſuſpended me in the air, where I hung full an hour, the ſport of my companions, who declared that I was an excellent mark, and the fineſt bird in the whole rookery. At length, however, I was releaſed, and except a ſlight ſcratch or two, unhurt.

Whether my fears brought on the neceſſity of a ſpeedy evacuation---or whether it was the common courſe of nature, I know not, but I was no ſooner ſafe upon land again, but I betook myſelf to the neceſſary-houſe, my evil genius ſtill attended me---the crazy boards, on which I ſtood, gave way, and I ſunk in up to my neck. I was however immediately releaſed by two of my ſchool-fellows, who placed me under a large pump in the yard, and plied me ſo plentifully with cold water by way of a ſweetner, that I was as near drowning as I had before been to ſuffocation.

About

About ſix months after this accident, as I was chopping a piece of wood to oblige the cook-maid, I cut off all the fingers of my left hand, the wound was ſoon healed, but the loſs is irreparable. My father now took me from ſchool, in hopes that I ſhould be ſafer under his protection, in which, however he was much miſtaken, ſcarce a week has happened for theſe ſeventeen years paſt, in which I have not encountered ſome uncommon misfortune.----I have loſt five of my teeth by a blow.----My left arm has been broke three times.---Twice have I been gored by an ox.----Three times have I been laid out for dead.---Once have I been cut for the ſtone.---And twice confined for ſeveral months in a mad-houſe, from the fatal effects of a fever.----And I am at this time as handſome a figure of a fellow, (LOSSES, BRUISES, BLOWS, SCARS, SCABS, and ACCIDENTS excepted) as ever the ſun ſhone upon. And all things conſidered, my great fear is, that I ſhall live to be hanged.

T. BENNET.

A Thief artfully diſcovered.

A Certain great officer in the province of China, having for ſome days applied himſelf to buſineſs, on a ſudden ſhut up his gates, and pretending to be ſick, would admit no body to ſee or ſpeak to him. A Mandarin and friend of his, dreading the conſequences of it, with much ado got leave to viſit him, and told him the great diſcontent the city was in for want of diſpatching buſineſs. The officer put him off with pretences of being indiſpoſed in his health. "I ſee no ſymptoms of it, ſaid the Mandarin, but if your excellency will acquaint me with the true cauſe, I will endeavour to ſerve you." The Chaquen, (for that was the name of his office) reply'd, "Some body

has ſtolen the king's ſeal out of the cabinet where I uſed to keep it, and have left it lock'd as if nothing had been taken out; ſo that if I ſhould give audience I can ſeal no diſpatches, and if I ſhould diſcover my careleſſneſs in ſuffering the king's ſeal to be ſtolen, I ſhould loſe both my government and my head."—— "Who do you ſuſpect as the author of this miſchief, ſaid the Mandarin?" "The governor of the Chaquen, who is my profeſs'd enemy." "Go then, ſaid the Mandarin, and command all your beſt moveables to be carried into the innermoſt part of your palace, ſet fire on the reſt, and cry out for help to quench it; and the governor muſt come by virtue of his office in ſuch accidents. When you firſt ſet eye on him, call to him, and give him the cabinet lock'd as it is, to ſecure it for you; for then if he has robb'd you of the ſeal, he will return it with the cabinet, or if he does not, your excellency will have a fair opportunity to charge him with neglecting to ſecure it, and ſo both free yourſelf from the impending danger, and revenge yourſelf upon your enemy." The ſtratagem had the deſired ſucceſs, for the next morning the fire being extinguiſhed, the governor brought him the cabinet with the king's ſeal in it; both concealing the robbery of the one, and the careleſſneſs of the other.

Hard Heads and Soft Heads.

THE ſkulls of the Egyptians (ſays an eminent hiſtorian) are generally ſo hard, that a ſtone can ſcarcely penetrate them. On the contrary, the ſkulls of the Perſians are ſo very tender, that they are broken by the ſmalleſt force.

The cauſe aſſigned is, that the Egyptians from their youth being uſed to cut their hair, their ſkulls are thus

thus hardened by the heat of the ſun; which is alſo the reaſon that few of them are bald. On the other hand, the Perſians do not cut their hair from their infancy, and are accuſtomed to have their heads always covered with faſhes or turbans.

Such are the remarks of an antient writer on this topic; for a more accurate diſcuſſion of which we refer the curious, to a modern and facetious lecturer.

Strange Fatality attendant on Drunkenneſs.

IN the year 1692, a gentleman of Paris, returning home after a nocturnal revel, fell down in the ſtreet, and being incapable of riſing, had his ſword ſuddenly ſnatched from him by an inraged perſon, who was purſuing his enemy, into whoſe heart, having plunged the drunkard's weapon, he fled with all ſpeed.

The watch in their round finding a man dead, with a ſword in his body, and a drunken man laying near him with his ſcabbard empty, apprehended him, and in the morning carried him before a magiſtrate, who, on ſuch apparent teſtimony of guilt, committed him to priſon; nor though innocent, could he, when ſober prove himſelf ſo, in a ſatisfactory manner, but underwent the cruel torture of the rack.

The murderer being afterwards to be racked for ſome other crime, confeſſed that he had uſed the ſword of the unfortunate drunkard, for the gratification of his own private revenge.

A pleaſant Story of a Dutch Burgomaſter.

IN the reign of king *James* II. an eminent Burgomaſter, having with great grief, obſerved the degeneracy which began to ſhew itſelf among the Dutch,

and the exceſſes which were the iſſue of wealth and idleneſs, took this method to ſhew them their folly and danger.

He invited the whole magiſtracy (conſiſting of thirty-ſix perſons) and ladies to a dinner, which they did not doubt both for delicacy and variety, would be worthy of him and them. But how great was their diſappointment, when they ſaw the firſt courſe on the table, conſiſting of apples boiled on butter-milk, ſtock-fiſh, with turnips and carrots, red-herrings, a lettice ſallad, and for drink, ſmall beer. The hoſt invited his gueſts to fall to; the ladies pleaded want of appetite, the men looked like the young prophets, when they called out, that death was in the pot; and till the table was cleared, ſcarce a word was ſpoke. But then appeared under every plate a ſcroll of verſes intimating, that ſuch was the fare of their fore-fathers, when their city firſt began to thrive, and the ſtates to have a name among the nations.

The ſecond courſe was ſerved up, which conſiſted of butcher's meat of every ſort, roaſted and boiled; but undiſguiſed with the arts of cookery, and without any other ſauce, than what a good ſtomach was to ſupply.——Engliſh beer and French wine, was added to the ſide-board. When the table was clear'd a ſecond time, appeared another chain of verſes, which informed them, that with regard to the wants of nature, theſe were luxuries, that it was the office of reaſon to regulate both the taſte and appetite, and by living thus, they would leave both their wealth and temperance to their heirs, who being uſed to ſuch examples, would bluſh to be thought degenerate by their children.

The table was again ſpread with all ſorts of fiſh and fowl, wild and tame, exquiſitely dreſſed, and reliſhed with the moſt poignant ſauces, ſerved in plate, and wines of the fineſt growth of the Rhine, Moſelle,

Champagne

Champagne and Burgundy; and followed with a memorial, importing, that all beyond nouriſhment was luxury, and all beyond decency was extravagance; that intemperance had a ſmiling aſpect, but dreadful retinue, conſiſting of the whole aſſemblage of diſeaſes; that death had been their cook, and had infuſed a ſlow poiſon in every ſauce.

This ſeemed to ſtrike a momentary damp on their ſpirits, which was ſoon forgot on the appearance of a magnificent deſert, to which Europe and both the Indies had contributed, followed by the wine of Tokay, and the water of Barbadoes, and every other delicacy that wealth, without bounds, could purchaſe.

Again the hand-writing denounced, that luxury is to proſperity, what a plague is to health, equally contagious and deſtructive; that it is a diſeaſe of which the moſt flouriſhing ſtates have died; that when it is become epidemical, in a country like theirs, depending on commerce, a diſſolution muſt inevitably follow: in conſequence of which the rich and renowned city of Amſterdam, would again be reduced to a fiſhing village, and their poſterity become as poor as their anceſtors were, without their continuance in induſtry, virtue and ſobriety.

The happy Deliverance.

ABOUT ſixty years ago, a counſellor of the parliament of Paris, travelling in his coach in a bye ſtreet, where there was but little trade, ſpyed a pretty young woman at a diſtance, who, by extending her arms, joining her hands, and lifting up her eyes, ſometimes to heaven, and then caſting them down to the earth, gave proof that ſhe was in ſome very great agonies of grief. The noiſe of the coach-wheels and horſes made her ſtop all of a ſudden, ſo that ſhe im-

mediately wiped her face, and with a slow pace walked on.

The counsellor, who soon overtook her, halted, and asked her very civilly what was the matter? I see, said he, you have been weeping plentifully, has any disaster happened to your family? Speak freely, you are happily fallen into good hands; there are many people, who would take an advantage of the confusion you are in, but from me you have nothing to fear. I am a frank honest man, of some reputation, and if I can be of service to you in any thing, I will exert myself with all the zeal I am capable of.

Though the girl was no more than sixteen or seventeen years old, she put on a serious air, and held it out stifly for a long time, that she ail'd nothing, that she did not want his protection, though however she was obliged to him for the offer, and that all she desired of him was, that he would let her proceed.

But at length after many entreaties, which were the real effect of the gentleman's compassionate temper, the young woman falling again into tears which she could refrain no longer, said to him, you are in the right, sir, I am not myself, I am disordered in my mind, I run up and down like one mad, and am within an ace sometimes of making away with myself.

I am the only daughter of a father who perfectly adored me. My will was a law to him, which he took a pleasure in observing whatever it was, so that I never asked him any thing but he immediately granted it. But about a twelvemonth ago, when he was in the prime of his years, God called him to himself; at which time the thoughts of our separation gave him a thousand times more uneasiness than the prospect of death. He was so loath to leave me, that he recommended me in the most earnest manner to his wife, my mother-in-law, who promised him whatever he desired, embraced me in his presence, and swore

by

by an oath, accompanied with a torrent of tears, that I ſhould for ever have a ſhare in her tendereſt friendſhip. But, alas! my poor father had ſcarce cloſed his eyes, when ſhe began to tyrannize over me in ſuch a manner, that there is ſcarce a moment but ſhe inſults and threatens me; from menances ſhe after proceeded to blows; and this very day, after having uſed me extremely ill, ſhe turned me out of doors.

That's bad indeed, ſaid the counſellor, you have reaſon without diſpute to complain; come into my coach, if you pleaſe, I muſt make you friends, if poſſible, or at leaſt know what's the cauſe of ſuch a dangerous quarrel.

She expreſſed a reluctance againſt taking him home with her; ſhe was very fearful of being ſeen, and her mother-in-law's indignation made her tremble; but ſhe was fain to comply at laſt.

The widow's houſe made a goodly appearance, and was ſeparated from the ſtreet by a ſtrong wall, and a large yard before the door. The counſellor having ſent in to know whether the gentlewoman was at leiſure, was carried into a fine hall, hung with tapeſtry, to which madam came in a moment. He was ſurprized to find her a tall handſome woman, about fifty years of age, with a ſweet engaging countenance, and the porte of a queen, rather than the widow of a private man.

After mutual compliments, he gave her an exact account of what would be the conſequence, and having begged her pardon for the liberty he took to intermeddle in an affair which was properly domeſtic, he intreated her very courteouſly to tell him the reaſon of the difference.

The old lady thanked him for the kind concern he ſhewed for her family, and did not ſpare to reproach her daughter-in-law; but at length, in complaiſance to the arbitrator, Miſs was ſent for in, reſtored to ma-

dam's good graces, and they made reciprocal promiſes the one to be very obedient for the future, the other to be more indulgent, and to ſhew all the tender regard that a mother is capable of to a child of her own, which was very much to the ſatisfaction of the counſellor, who was glad at his heart that he had been ſo ſucceſsful a mediator.

Then the daughter was obliged to withdraw, and madam took that opportunity to confeſs her vaſt obligation to the counſellor. She earneſtly intreated him to bring her to the acquaintance of his lady, that ſhe might have more opportunities of being benefitted by his wholeſome counſels; and ſhe alſo hoped he would vouchſafe to honour her with his company at dinner, the rather becauſe the cloth was already laid, and as ſhe had invited ſome friends, ſhe was the better prepared to regale him with three or four good diſhes.

The compliment was uttered with ſo good a grace, that the counſellor gave his conſent, ordered his coachman to go home, and tell his family not to wait for him, and bid him return again with the coach in two hours. Mean time the lady with his leave retired to give orders concerning dinner.

As he was walking alone, expecting her return, he accidently ſtruck his elbow againſt the hangings, and found a void ſpace, which excited his curioſity to lift them up; when to his great aſtoniſhment, he ſaw the naked corpſe of a man all bloody, who ſeemed to have been but lately murdered, extended at full length upon a bed of ſtraw, contrived in the wall.

This horrid ſpectacle, which threatened him with the like fate, made him run precipitately out of the room, and when he was got into the middle of the yard, ſomebody ſaw him, and called to him, intreating him to have a little patience; adding, that the old lady would be with him in a trice, and that every

thing

thing was ready to be ſerved up; but all theſe fine words could not ſtop him. He told them as he ran out, that ſomething was juſt come into his head, which would admit of no delay, that he would be back almoſt as ſoon as gone; and that fall to as ſoon as they pleaſed, there would be enough for him.

Juſt as he was got out of the gate, who ſhould enter but four great cut-throat villains, who were hired no doubt to reward him for his offices, but they came a little too late, ſo that the honeſt man eſcaped the ſnare that was laid for him, and the old bawd, and the young whore had the mortification to find that they had acted their parts in vain. And to add to their misfortunes, were, upon the judge's information, apprehended, and deſervedly executed.

Remarkable Relation of a Dog ſwallowed by an Eel.

A Gentleman in the ſhire of Angus in Scotland, in December, 1749, fired at a duck on a lake that was frozen over, the duck being only wounded, dived under the ice, the gentleman's dog followed her, but n t returning, he went home.

In the month of February following, a fiſherman having caught a prodigious large eel, many people went to ſee it, and among the reſt, the above gentleman. The fiſherman agreed to open the eel, when to the ſurprize of all the ſpectators, out jumped poor Tray, the gentleman's dog, and ran fawning to his maſter, briſk and lively, but greatly emaciated, from remaining ſo long in the eel's belly.

Unac-

Unaccountables.

BETWEEN Sutton and Hertford in a common meadow, called the Wergin, were placed two large ſtones, as a water mark, one ſtood upright, and the other laid athwart, but in the year 1652, they were moved 240 paces from their former ſituations, and nobody could tell how; therefore it is commonly reported to have been done by ſome infernal ſpirit, becauſe when they were brought back to their places again, one of them required nine yoke of oxen to draw it.

Likewiſe, near the river Loden, in Radlaw hundred in Hertfordſhire, is that remarkable piece of ground, called Marcley-hill, which in the year 1575, rouſed as it were out of its ſleep, or rather might be ſaid to be in labour for three days together, ſhaking and roaring all the time, to the great terror of thoſe that heard or ſaw it. It removed itſelf to a higher place, and threw down all that oppoſed it. It carried along trees that grew upon it, and the ſheep-folds, and flocks of ſheep that were grazing on it.

In the place from whence it was moved, it left a gap of 400 foot wide, and 300 long. The whole field being above 200 acres. It overthew Kinnaſton chapel, which ſtood in its way; removed a yew-tree which grew in the chapel yard, from the weſt to the eaſt, threw down with violence the cauſeways, trees, and houſes, made tilled lands paſture, and paſture of tilled lands.

Having thus walked from Sunday evening, ſix o'clock, till two o'clock Monday morning, it ſtood ſtill, and moved no more, having mounted up a hill twelve fathoms.

The Blunt Wooer.

ONE Pratt in Halifax, buried his ſecond wife on Friday, and on the Sunday following, went to hear her funeral ſermon, and immediately after it was ended, made up to a widow, of whom he had but little knowledge, and deſired her to go to his houſe to drink tea with him, upon which ſhe agreed; he in the mean time aſked her, if ſhe would be his wife? She anſwered, for the ſake of decency, don't propoſe it yet. Upon this head he ſaid no more, but as ſoon as ſhe departed, he went to another widow's houſe, and aſked her the ſame queſtion. She reply'd without the leaſt heſitation, ſhe would, and accordingly all things were concluded on.

The next morning, the widow, whom he firſt addreſſed, began to recollect that he was a haſty man, and would poſſibly apply elſewhere, which might not be ſo agreeable to her, ſhe went to him, under pretence of getting ſome fire-wood, and ſaid, are you in the ſame mind now as you was yeſterday. On which he reply'd, he was not; and further ſaid, he was agreed to be married wsth another. On which ſhe went home, curſing herſelf and decency.---He is now married to her who never dream'd of decency.

The Journal of a Country Gentleman in the Days of Queen Elizabath.

NO man is at any time ſecure from misfortunes: I ſet up for being ſheriff of the county no leſs than three times, and yet my oppoſite has carried it againſt me every time. But though my country is unwilling to grant me the honour of being high-ſheriff, they are ready enough to load me with the labo-

rious

rious offices; and now I am elected a burgeſs to ſerve in parliament, notwithſtanding all the endeavouts I have uſed to get myſelf excuſed. This is an hard duty, and a very expenſive one, and nothing but danger to be gained by it; but it is all done by wicked corruption in the borough I ſerve. There are three gentlemen in the neighbourhood of more intereſt than I; and becauſe not ſparing in treating the aldermen and mayor with ſtrong drink, they always got themſelves cleanly off. The moment there is any diſcourſe of an election, their beer is broached, and the drunken mob are made to conſider them as unfit to ſerve. Thus I muſt prepare to go to town, although it be fifty miles off, with a wife three months gone with child.

Monday. Very buſy in preparing for our journey to town, which will take us not above three days upon the road, as our horſes are good, and we intend to uſe great expedition. I have ſettled the order of our journey. My wife is to ride behind the foot-boy, and my daughter behind myſelf, which will be leſs burthenſome to the horſes than if my wife and I rode together, ſhe being a little corpulent, which I attribute to her being fond of mum, a liquor that I am told by the doctoreſs of our country is very fattening. As I intend to cut a figure in town, and to ride into the metropolis with ſome ſplendor, we muſt have ten men in livery, who, riding but two upon a horſe, will make a very gallant appearance, and each of them ſhall have a ſerge doublet of yellow, adorned with worſted fringe.

The latter part of this day is ſpent in taking leave of our neighbours; and I have the pleaſure of ſeeing ſome of them ſhed tears at our intended departure: However, all danger muſt be faced for the good of our fire-ſide again.

Tueſday

Tueſday. Upon the road. My wife and daughter having taken a toaſt and tankard early in the morning before ſetting out, in order to keep the wind off their ſtomachs, are, I find, in good ſpirits, and able to travel two or three miles before breakfaſt: We have however ſent on the running foot-man before us, to beſpeak a pound of beef-ſtakes a-piece, at the houſe of one of my tenants, who occaſionally keeps an inn, and has ſometimes three or four cuſtomers a week, when in a run of buſineſs. My daughter at breakfaſt complains of the dreſſing of the beef, being very delicate in her eating; but this daintineſs I muſt in ſome meaſure aſcribe to her mother, who, in ſpite of all I can alledge, prefers onions to garlic in her gravy.

Wedneſday. My daughter having never been from home above four miles before this time (ſhe being not as yet arrived at her 20th year) greatly diverts me with her remarks upon all that offers. We are overtaken on the road by a drove of wild oxen, which are going to be ſold in London, and though I uſe every method to make my ſervants to keep up with them, yet they leave us far behind. My wife complains of her bones aching with the rapidity of our progreſs. Her pillion broke down. Three hours taken up by our armourer to put it to rights again.

Thurſday. Having taken a hearty breakfaſt, we ſet forward, knowing that we had a long ſtage of it till dinner-time. Poſterity will ſcarcely believe it; but it is true; we were not able to get to dinner till it was near two o'clock, which is ſo late an hour, that my wife's appetite was quite ſpoiled with waiting; ſhe was juſt able to get down a leg and a wing of a gooſe with much preſſing. And here I cannot avoid complaining of the intolerable extortion of our raſcally hoſt who charged for every article double prices. We had but a fat gooſe, a bacon-ham, five pounds of black puddings, and a white-pot; and yet for this trifling

trifling fare, the rogue had the conſcience to charge us for eating and ſtrong drink two ſhillings and ninepence.

N. B. The muſtard and all-ſpice were our own.

Friday. In town. We made a goodly ſhew in marching up Cheapſide: ſome of the citizens left their ſhops to gaze at us. My daughter in high ſpirits: ſhe is to be introduced to the queen ſhortly, from whence ſhe is to ſee the tower, the abby, and, but that ſhe is afraid of croſſing the water, ſhe might take a boat to the play-houſe. However, one play ſhe muſt ſee, becauſe I would do things genteely. This, with a new gown and fardingale, will, I hope, content her. I am reſolved to return home as ſoon as ever the buſineſs of the houſe will permit.

The Triumph of HYPOCRISY. *A* TALE.

ON the death of a very valuable huſband, who had an advantageous place under the government, but whoſe private fortune was ſmall, Mrs. Barney removed, as ſ on as ſhe could ſettle her affairs, to London. Not being able to live in her uſual ſtile, and having too much ſpirit, perhaps pride, to leſſen her appearance among her friends, ſhe retired to a cheap village, many miles from the metropolis. To her rural retreat ſhe carried with her a daughter about eighteen, a fine girl in her perſon, accompliſhed and ſenſible, with very good principles, and an excellent heart.

Mrs. Barney, obſerving her daughter look extremely melancholy one morning a few days before that fixed for her departure from Dover-ſtreet, aſked her in a manner which ſufficiently denoted her maternal affection, whether any thing lay heavy upon her mind to occaſion ſuch a dejection in her countenance? "I did

did not, indeed, my dear Sophy, wonder to see you deeply concerned at your father's death, because he was truly an inestimable man in every respect; but as he endured a great deal of misery under the disorder, which was soon after its first appearance, pronounced incurable, you should rather be comforted, as I myself am; though I sincerely lamenr his loss, by considering that he is happily released from all his torments in this world, and that he will most probably, as he was more than a nominal christian, enjoy everlasting felicity in a future state.

"I am comforted, madam," replied she, "with regard to my father's death, because my reflections upon his decease are extremely like your own; but—

Here she hung down her head, sighed, and wept.

"Why then these disquieting emotions, my dear? Why these sighs, why these tears? You know, Sophy, that I am your true friend, as well as your affectionate mother; you may, therefore, safely trust me with every secret of your afflicted heart."

"I am thoroughly sensible, madam, of the truth of what you have said, and am, therefore, ashamed of myself for not being able to disclose what gives me so much uneasiness, without incurring your displeasure. Your looks render a farther explanation unnecessary."

"How, Sophy? are you still attached to Mr. Studley?"

A deep blush fully answered that question before she could articulate a verbal answer to it, the gentleman himself was announced, the repetition of whose name had occasioned so great a glow in her cheeks.

Mrs. Barney immediately turning to the servant, said, rather fiercely, "We are not at home; and I desire that Mr. Studley may never be admitted to us."

The servant, having told Mr. Studley that they were at home, felt very awkard on being dispatched

with

with ſuch a meſſage; but as it was not his buſineſs to oppoſe his orders, he haſtened to deliver it.

Studley was very much diſappointed and chagrined, as he came to make propoſals which could not, he flattered himſelf, be rejected.

Studley, at the time he made his former addreſſes to Miſs Barney, a few months before her father's deceaſe, was, though a very worthy man, only a younger brother, with a ſmall fortune. Mr. and Mrs. Barney having hopes at that juncture of forming a conſiderable alliance for their daughter, unanimouſly refuſed to liſten to a lover who had little money, and no animating proſpects, to the extreme mortification of that daughter, who felt, in her heart, a powerful advocate for Mr. Studley; and her partialities in his behalf were not unreaſonable, for he was a very amiable young fellow; he had a thouſand good qualities; he had no capital blemiſhes. His exterior prejudiced every body in his favour, and his manners were extremely inviting. Had Mrs. Barney been acquainted with the motives which prompted him to pay her a viſit after that he had met with from her, ſhe would certainly have ſeen him; his motives were the moſt generous ones imaginable. He had juſt entered into the poſſeſſion of a large eſtate, bequeathed to him by a rich old godfather; and being too much enamour'd with Miſs Barney to think of any other woman to ſhare it with him, made his appearance again in Dover-ſtreet, to renew his addreſſes, not doubting but that he ſhould be better received than he had been.

Chagrined as he was, however, at his diſappointment, he attacked Mrs. Barney's door ſeveral times. She was ſtill denied; but he, at laſt, one day, by a proper application to the hand of a female ſervant, who gave him his diſmiſſion, prevailed on her to deliver a letter to her young lady.

That

That letter, which would, probably, have ſecured the writer of it a favourable reception, as Sophy made no concealments from her mother, was, by ſome accident, loſt.

Studley, concluding, as he received no anſwer to it, that Miſs Barney had transferred her affections to another man, went down to his eſtate a little piqued, as well as unhappy. In a few days after his departure Mrs. Barney and Sophy ſet out for their retreat, in Dorſetſhire.

Mrs. Barney had not been half a year in her little dwelling, in which ſhe lived very comfortably, and was very much reſpected by the few families in the neighbourhood, before a gentleman, came upon a viſit to an aunt of his, whoſe houſe was not far from hers, attracted her attention in a particular manner, by the politeneſſes which he paid to her daughter; and ſhe was more pleaſed with thoſe politeneſſes as Mrs. Murray had informed her, ſoon after the arrival of her nephew, that he had expreſſed himſelf in the higheſt terms about Miſs Barney.

Mr. Thurlſton was quite a man of the world: he was in very affluent circumſtances; and he appeared in Mrs. Barney's eyes, by his converſation (no man ever underſtood the art of converſation better) the beſt creature breathing: but her opinion concerning him was deplorably erroneous, for he was one of the worſt beings that ever exiſted. He was a compleat maſter of deceit, a finiſhed hypocrite. Even his worthy aunt, though by no means deſtitute of penetration on many occaſions, beheld him rather in an angelic light.

Thurlſton, having obtained Mrs. Barney's conſent to marry her daughter, which was readily granted, as the ſettlement which he propoſed to make on Sophia was too flattering to be refuſed, turned to the idol of his heart (for he was really in love with her perſon) who ſat by him, and thus addreſſed her:

"May I not hope alſo for your conſent, Miſs Barney; for without that I cannot promiſe myſelf any happineſs: if you have a prepoſſeſſion for any other man, I ſhall be the moſt miſerable of beings, becauſe I ſhall be by that prepoſſeſſion doomed to continue in the ſolitary condition I am to the laſt moment of my life. You are ſo neceſſary to my felicity that if you reject me, I ſhall never think of marrying any other woman."

Here he pauſed, waiting for Sophia's anſwer.

Poor Sophy was never in ſo perplexed a ſtate. She had not the leaſt inclination to be married to Mr. Thurlſton; ſhe had, indeed, ſtrong prejudices againſt him. Not all his ſoft behaviour, all his inſinuating aſſiduities, had been ſufficient to diſlodge Studley from her mind: ſtill, ſtill, he was uppermoſt in her thoughts; her heart throbbed for him alone.

Yet ſhe did not know how to give Thurlſton a poſitive refuſal, becauſe her mother, whom ſhe loved with an uncommon ſhare of filial affection, had repeatedly declared herſelf bent upon her becoming his wife; and ſhe was exceedingly unwilling to render a mother, who had been ſo kind to her, ſo tender, ſo indulgent; wretched; wretched, perhaps, for the remainder of her days.

In this perplexed ſtate Sophy ſat ſilent for ſome moments, looking at her mother with the moſt embarraſſed countenance; but not ſeeing any marks of an altered diſpoſition in her face, quitted the room without ſpeaking a word, and retired to her own apartment to reflect upon her diſtreſſing ſituation.

Mrs. Barney, having made an apology to Mr. Thurlſton for leaving him alone, followed her daughter. In about half an hour ſhe returned, and told him that Sophy was ready to give him her hand.

"Will ſhe not give me her heart at the ſame time, madam?

"Why

"Why Sir, to be plain with you, as you have behaved in ſo generous a manner, my daughter fooliſhly fell in love with a young fellow worth nothing, not long before our departure from London, and ſtill ſeems to have a hankering after him; but I hope that time, and your affectionate behaviour to her, for I think I can depend upon your treating her with the tenderneſs which ſhe deſerves, will thoroughly reconcile her to the man whom I have choſen for her.

"Well, madam," replied Mr. Thurlſton, "tho' I am ſorry to find that Miſs Barney's heart is pre-engaged, I will hope with you that time and my tenderneſs will render her attached to me not only from duty but inclination. I will immediately make proper arrangements in my affairs to accelerate the completion of my happineſs."

With theſe words he took his leave.

When every thing was adjuſted preparatory to his wedding day, Thurlſton came one fine afternoon in his curricle, and aſked Sophy to take an airing with him to ſee a little villa which had ſtruck him, and which he intended to purchaſe, if it proved agreeable to his taſte. "We ſhall be there in a couple of hours," added he, and our ride home will be extremely pleaſant in the cool of the evening, eſpecially as the day is down."

In conſequence of Sophy's immediate conſent to his invitation he ſet off with her in great ſpirits, highly pleaſed with her chearful concurrence with his requeſt, and drove with no ſmall expedition to the point he had in view.

When he arrived at the villa he had mentioned, and carried her all over the houſe and gardens, he aſked her if ſhe approved of them. Upon her telling him that ſhe never beheld a ſweeter place, he replied, with a ſpirited tone, "You give me an infinite deal

of pleaſure, madam; for every thing you ſee here belongs to me, and conſequently to you."

Sophy could not help feeling herſelf flattered by that Speech, which, added to the unexpected diſcovery with regard to the charming ſpot before her, inſpired her with grateful ſenſations, and ſhe expreſſed her acknowledgments in very ſatisfactory terms to her polite lover.

Juſt when ſhe had finiſhed her acknowledgments, a ſervant came to inform Mr. Thurlſton that the coffee and tea were ready.

Thurlſton, by a thouſand little attentions, which cannot be deſcribed, endeavoured to entertain his miſtreſs in ſuch a manner, that ſhe might not perceive the flight of time; and indeed ſhe was ſo much enchanted with his company, that ſhe did not think upon her going home till a violent thunder-ſtorm rouzed different ideas in her mind, from thoſe which had been floating in it. When the ſtorm was over, ſhe pteſſed Mr. Thnrlſton to return, as it grew late. His anſwer made her uneaſy, and perplexed her. He complained of an exceſſive pain in his head; "I feel a feveriſh diſorder coming upon me (continued he), and am utterly unable to carry you home to-night; but one of my ſervants ſhall wait upon you, if you will put yourſelf under his protection. If you do not chuſe to return without me, (added he, with the ſofteſt accents) an apartment ſhall be prepared for you. I muſt go to bed immediately.---I am extremely ill."

Sophy, impelled by gratitude, as her lover had exerted himſelf ſo much to give her pleaſure, told him that ſhe would accept of the apartment he had offered her till he was better.----"But how ſhall I acquaint my mother? (continued ſhe) My good mother will be exceedingly alarmed."

"Leave that to me (replied he, eagerly) I will diſpatch a man and horſe to her directly with proper intelligence."

At the concluſion of this dialogue, Thurlſton left Sophy to her own reflections, which were in a little while interrupted by the appearance of a female ſervant, who informed her that an apartment was ready for her reception, when ſhe choſe to retire for the night.

Sophy retired to the apartment prepared for her, but ſhe could not think of going to reſt till ſhe had enquired after Mr. Thurlſton: On hearing that he grew worſe and worſe, ſhe declared her intention to ſit up with him. She ſat up with him, and——was ruined; he having feigned himſelf indiſpoſed, in order to keep her all night with him, availed himſelf of a ſlumber, into which ſhe had fallen through meer wearineſs towards morning, and robbed her of what could never be reſtored.

Anecdote of the late Duke of Cumberland.

HIS Royal Highneſs was ſome years ago at Newmarket, and juſt before the horſes ſtarted, he miſſed his pocket-book, containing ſome bank notes. When the knowing ones came about him, and offered him ſeveral betts, he ſaid, "He had loſt his money already, and could not afford to venture more that day." The horſe which the Duke had intended to back was diſtanced, ſo he conſoled himſelf that the loſs of his pocket-book was only a temporary evil, as he ſhould have paid away as much had he betted to the Worthies of the Turf. The race was no ſooner finiſhed than a Veteran half-pay officer preſented his Royal-Highneſs with his pocket-book, ſaying he had found it near the ſtand, but had not an opportunity of approaching him before: when the Duke moſt generouſly replied, "I am glad it has fallen into ſuch good hands; keep it: had it not been for this acci-

dent, it would have been by this time diſperſed among the Black Legs and Thieves of Newmarket."

On the danger of PLEASURES. *An allegory.*

A Derviſe, famed for the ſanctity of his life, went into the houſe of a confectioner. The maſter of the ſhop, deſirous of treating the holy man, preſented him with a cup full of honey; but he had ſcarce uncovered it, when a legion of flies came pouring down upon it. The confectioner took a fan to drive them away. The flies that had alighted on the edge of the veſſel, eaſily ſaved themſelves; but thoſe, which, more greedy, had crowded into the middle, clinging to the honey, could not get off.

The Derviſe, ſunk in a deep reverie, examined the ſpectacle with an attentive eye. Come to himſelf, he fetched a long ſigh, and the confectioner, all aſtoniſhment, aſking him the reaſon of it, he ſaid:

"This veſſel is the world, and theſe flies are its inhabitants: Thoſe that ſtopped on the edge of the veſſel reſemble the wiſe, who, ſetting bounds to their deſires, do not run as madmen after pleaſures, and content themſelves with ſkimming over only their ſurface. The flies that ran headlong into the midſt of the veſſel, repreſent thoſe that, giving looſe reins to their diſorderly inclinations, abandon themſelves without reſerve to all ſorts of voluptuouſneſs.

"When the angel of death, paſſing over in a rapid flight the ſurface of the earth ſhall ſhake his wings, ſuch men as have proceeded no farther than the edges of the veſſel of this world, will freely begin to ſoar on high, and fly with the celerity of a light wing towards the celeſtial country; but thoſe who, ſlaves of their paſſions, have plunged into the veſſel poiſoned with pleaſures, will ſink therein deeper and deeper, and be precipitated into the abyſs."

Great

Great Oak.

AT Velau a little town in Pruſſia, there is an oak, whoſe trunk is thirty-five ells in thickneſs, but it is hollow within; which is ſo wide that a perſon can enter it on horſeback, and prance about; nay a gentleman affirms, that they have now built a gallery in it for the conveniency of ſeeing a bull baiting, which, when full, will hold fifteen hundred people.

The Wonderful Pikes.

NEAR to Ulmen, a little town, a caſtle in Germany, there is a lake, in which there are two extraordinary pikes, one of which is twenty, and the other thirty-ſix foot long: they are ſaid to preſage the death of ſomebody out of every family in the place, whenever they make their appearance.

The Grateful Dragon.

IN Patras, a city of Achaia, a boy called Hogas had brought up a young dragon, which he kept and nouriſhed with great care, inſomuch that the beaſt conceived the utmoſt affection for him. When the dragon was grown to a conſiderable bigneſs, the citizens cauſed it to be carried into the wilderneſs and left there. It happened afterwards, that, as this Hogas, being arrived at man's eſtate, was returning with company from ſome public ſhow, they were beſet by robbers.---That crying out, the dragon immediately knew his voice, came to his reſcue, frightened ſome, and ſlew others, ſo preſerved the life of his benefactor, and conducted him ſafe to the city.

Surprizing properties of three Rivers.

THERE are three rivers in Theſſaly of an extraordinary nature. The wool of the lambs, which drink of the one, in time grow white; if of the ſecond, ſpotted; and if of the third, black. Nay, a gentleman aſſured me, that, to his knowledge, a friend of his took a lamb, of which proper care was taken that it ſhould drink, both of the former and the latter, by which means one ſide of the lamb was milk white, and the other jet black.

The Fountains of Memory and Forgetfulneſs.

THERE are two fountains in Beſtia of an oppoſite nature, though they are very near each other. Whoſoever drinks of the one immediately loſes his memory, which he recovers upon drinking of the other; nay, if he drinks a double quantity of the latter, it becomes thereby ſtronger than it was before.

A Wonderful Dog.

THE maſter of this animal affirms, that he could diſtinguiſh at firſt ſight his friend from his foe, and an honeſt man from a knave. If he by chance left any thing behind him, when from home, the dog would lye upon it or as near as the creature could get, till he returned; he could expreſs diſtinctly all the tones of muſic; and ſo very quick, that when any perſon ſung out of tune or time, he was always ſure to howl.

The Surprising Lake.

NEAR Dronthem in Denmark, there is a lake that is never frozen, for though the top of the water is cold, the bottom is so warm that the inhabitants boil their meat in it, by letting it down in a pot, which they have made and keep only for that purpose. Some of the inhabitants resolved to examine the bottom, and accordingly ordered piles to be drove for that purpose, but to their great surprize found what the workmen did in the day, was consumed in the night, which was supposed to be burnt, for within three fo t of the surface, they could see the water boil; which was occasioned by the quantity of wood drove into the lake.

Fresh and Salt Water.

IT is said, that when the wind is easterly, the water of the Baltic sea is so fresh, that victuals may be dresst with it; at north-east, it begins to change, so that by dipping several times you may get a bucket of fresh, and one of salt; but when westerly, it is altogether salt.

Strong Men.

THE inhabitants of the islands of Shetland are so robust, that a man of a hundred years of age, can marry a woman of twenty; and at a hundred and fifty are vigorous enough, to follow a pack of the best harriers on foot a whole day's hunting. These people, they say, smuggle the juice of the Mete tree from Mexico.

Origin of the Word COCKNEY.

A Country-man married a citizen of London's daughter, by whom he had a ſon. When he came of age, he took him into the country to viſit his relations; going down the Eſſex road, the boy perceiving a colt running neighing after a mare, called to his father, who was juſt before him, "Father, father, what does that four-legged creature ſay?" "Why child (replied the father) it neighs after his dam." They had not gone far, before the boy ſaw a cock upon a dunghill clapping his wings and crowing, upon which the young calf ſaid, "Hark ye, father, how the cock neighs;" which a witty cobler overheard who was ſtanding hard by, ſeeing ſome men at work, burſt out into a fit of laughter, and entailed (though corruptly) the epithet of cockney upon every London born citizen.

Women are Slippery Things.

A Fiddler was bragging what a chaſte wife he had. Says a merchant I will lay my ſhip againſt your fiddle, that I get her good will to lay with her. The wager was laid, and he had the liberty to try her; the fidler at the ſame time ſtood at the window playing and ſinging this ſong;

Hold out, ſweet heart, hold out;
Hold out but theſe two hours;
If thou hold out, there is no doubt,
But the ſhip and all is ours.

Her Anſwer.

Indeed, ſweet Robin, I cannot,
He hath caught me round the middle;
He hath me won, and thou art undone;
Sweet Robin thou haſt loſt thy fiddle.

Surpriſing

Surpriſing Proof of Healthineſs.

THOUGH the air of Greenland is very cold, yet it is ſo healthy, that the inhabitants are very rarely troubled with any diſorder; and even thoſe who are attacked by a fever, are notwithſtanding able to dine upon a piece of ſalt beef.

Severe Climate.

THOUGH Ruſſia is the largeſt country in Europe, two thirds of it are covered with ſnow all the year. The air is ſometimes ſo very piercing, that the inhabitants loſe their noſes, hands and feet; their ſpittle freezes as it falls from their mouth; even trees often burſt with the violence of the cold: notwithſtanding the ſummer is ſo very hot, that great lakes are often entirely dried up, and that the inhabitants faint as they paſs along the ſtreets.

Fact upon Fact.

AT Turnham Green lives a barber who the inhabitants eſteem for his wit: he was ſent for one day to ſhave the late Mr. Churchill, who lived in that neighbourhood: to excuſe himſelf, he ſaid he had been buſy ever ſince five o'clock in the morning, which happened to be the day the Weſtminſter militia was reviewed. Mr. Churchill aſked him how many he had ſhaved, "Sir," replied the barber, "you "make the hundred and fifteenth." "That is a "great number," replied Churchill, "in ſo ſmall "a place. But I remember a gentleman in your way "who uſed likewiſe to draw teeth, (that lived in a

"ſmall

" ſmall village in Eſſex of which I was curate) drew " as many teeth one morning as compleatly paved a " court yard larger than that (pointing to his own, which was twelve yards long and ten yards wide) " and that he and his wife finiſhed the work the next " morning before five o'clock." " Yes," ſays the barber, " my wife helpt me to comb the wigs, and make the lather."

Strong Men of Melton in Yorkſhire.

THE natives of this place, are ſaid to be ſo ſtrong as to be able to carry a table in their teeth that is large enough to dine twelve people; nay they further add, that one John Crathorne, a farmer's ſon, ran with a blackſmith's anvil in his teeth from Melton town end, to the blackſmith's ſhop in Ferreby, which is a mile and ſixty-two yards meaſured, for a wager of three half crowns, which he performed in nine minutes, that is four leſs than the time given.

Burning Ice.

AT Welton, the ſiſter town to Melton, there is in the vale a fine ſpring, the water of which the inhabitants uſe for tea. The laſt week in December 1765, the froſt was ſo ſevere, that it froze the water that ran from the hill, which ice was ſo dry and hard, that one John Colſton, a butcher, coming down the vale, was ſo ſurprized to ſee it, that he carried a piece home with him, and after ſhewing it to his family and neighbours threw it into the fire, which was wood and turf, and to his aſtoniſhment, it burnt like a coal: he informed the village of it, who immediately went and collected the ice together and brought it home to

their

their different houſes, which 'tis thought will ſerve them all the winter inſtead of coal; and what was more extraordinaty, it would not burn upon a coal fire.

The Stateſman and Broker. A TALE.

ONE morning lately Gideon came
To Pelham's ſtately palace,
Did thus accoſt that man of fame:
I come not for a place,
Or dirty penſion, or a bribe:
So often promis'd here:
No! in behalf of my whole tribe
I now, great ſir, appear.
You know full well that many a jobb
For you I've undertaken,
As well as for your late friend Bob,
And always ſtood unſhaken:
How many millions has been paid
By this poor beggard nation,
How many heavy taxes laid,
To keep you in your ſtation:
I, and my brethren, your good friends,
Have been your great ſupport;
Then let us now obtain our ends
By influence of the C——t.
Whate'er you ſay or do's a law
Within St. Stephen's walls:
You keep the ſlavish wretch in awe,
For liberty who calls:
Then let us Jews, dear ſir, be free
By naturalization;
And let a wand'ring people be
United in this nation.
The broker ceas'd, the ſtateſman ſpoke
In language well expreſs'd;

In

In earneſt half, and half in joke,
His chap he thus addreſs'd:
You know that ſuch a bill, ſir, is
Hardly to be cramm'd down;
Should we attempt a thing like this
'Twould frighten all the town:
Beckford would rage, the city rave;
Petitions far and near
Would pray a ſinking land to ſave,
And ſure deſtruction fear:
Beſides, how can you think 'twou'd paſs
Safe through the houſe of Peers?
Each biſhop there muſt be an aſs,
Not to expreſs his fears.
My brother too will ne'er come in
To paſſing ſuch a bill,
And, without his conſent you win,
No other lord's you will:
For my part I would any thing
Do for your ſervice paſt,
But this would leave ſo ſharp a ſting
'Twould ruin us at laſt.
Then ſighing, paus'd and ſtopp'd a while,
When t' other ſilence broke,
And try'd all arts fit to beguile
His fear, as thus he ſpoke:
The difficulties which you ſtart,
Good ſir, are ſoon remov'd,
And it is not beyond your art
To have the bill approv'd.
In the firſt place, to cram it down
Is no ſuch mighty taſk;
Such things you twenty times have done;
Do but your conſcience aſk.
As to the clamour it would make
With Beckford in the city;

Of

Of ſuch poor ſouls no notice take;
They are below your pity.
A hundred thouſand pounds at leaſt
Are ready to be paid:
For ſuch a ſum ſmall's the requeſt;
It only wants your aid.
A ſwet'ning clauſe you may put in,
To make the b—p's eaſy,
They ſoon will vote through thick and thin,—
I'll warrant you they'll pleaſe ye—
Let them preſent to each living
Upon our new eſtates,
Then on this uſeful bill's paſſing
They'll not hold long debates.
Your brother he muſt have a ſum,
To ſatisfy demands;
No leſs I mean than half a plum
To put into his hands.
This will prevent the furious rage
Of creditors uncivil,
No more they'll ſeize his equipage,
And with him play the devil.
If any other wants a fee
In this we'll ſpare no coſt,
We'll buy the Chancellor's decree
Rather than have it loſt.
The Jew here ſtopp'd, and bowing low
Waits for a kind reply,
The ſtateſman wants no more to know
His ſuit not to deny;
And thus he anſwer'd; I muſt own
You promiſe very fair;
All in my power ſhall be done,
To do't no pains I'll ſpare.
I've heard, in good king William's reign,
Three hundred thouſand pounds
Was offer'd their conſent to gain
To bring this matter round;

But

But patriot notions in thoſe days
Were damnably in faſhion,
Their ſtubborn virtue knew no ways
To ſatisfy the nation;
We've no ſuch men to deal withall,
No oppoſition baſe;
With us our men will ſtand and fall,
And thus our fortune raiſe:
Therefore, my friend, depend upon't
This matter ſhall ſucceed;
Each Jew may now with ſafety vaunt
To paſs it is decreed.
The bargain ſtruck, they both withdrew
Each to his occupation,
Gideon, the City to undo,
And Pelham, the whole nation.

Surprizing Plenty of Fiſh.

AT Beverly in Yorkſhire, there is a ſmall river which runs a little way into the town, and at ſpring tides, eſpecially if the wind be weſterly, it abounds with fiſh to ſuch a degree, that the keels and boats have great difficulty to paſs; the inhabitants for many years were ſo ſtupid, that they thought it was occaſioned by the ſhallowneſs of the river; to rectify which they opened a ſubſcription with intent to raiſe money to dig it deeper; but one Mr. John Croft, who was a very early riſer and delighted much in walking, for the ſake of variety walked one morning down the river ſide, where he ſaw upwards of five hundred cats: when he advanced two paces nigher, he ſaw ſome eating fiſh, and others putting their paws in to catch them: he then went down to the edge of the water, and putting in his ſtick, found the river ſo full as not to be able to move it without ſticking it

againſt

againſt a fiſh. When he had got about two hundred yards from the place, returning home, he met his own cat going to join the reſt, which ſurpriſed him ſtill more, his houſe being a full mile from the place.

The Cod and Wild Duck.

ONE John Wright, a fiſh-hook maker in Crooked-Lane, Cannon-ſtreet, having invited ſome friends at Chriſtmas time to ſup, and being at a loſs what to provide, his wife adviſed him to take his gun, and try if he could pick up a diſh of larks; (Wright, you muſt know, was a good ſhot) he immediately loaded his gun, and in his way to Iſlington-fields, called upon one Samuel Jones, a fiſh-monger, in Leaden-hall Market, with intent to buy a Cod's head. When they had agreed upon the price, the fiſh-monger cut the head off, from whence flew a Wild Duck, which Wright ſeeing, preſented his piece and brought it down; Jones then inſiſted upon the Duck, arguing that he agreed to ſell the Cod only; Wright, well ſatisfied of that, told him that if he had not ſhot it, the diſpute would not have happened; notwithſtanding the deciſion of his neighbours, he inſiſted upon having the Duck, or eating part of it; they being friends, Wright invited him to ſupper; after which, he aſked the company how they liked the Duck; they all unanimouſly agreed (without knowing from whence it came) that they never eat ſo fine a Duck.——And what was more extraordinary, it did not eat the leaſt fiſhy.

The Valuable Crab.

A Woman who had for many years ſold fiſh in Drury-lane, *i. e.* in the ſtreet facing Ruſſel-court,

went down to Billingſgate one morning as uſual, and finding a ſcarcity of fiſh, bought ſome crabs and lobſters; at the decline of the evening, one Thomas Pimlo, who then kept the Red-Lion ale-houſe, in Ruſſel-ſtreet, Covent-Garden, coming home from the City, aſked the woman the price of her crabs; ſhe having but two left, and very deſirous of ſelling them, took what he bid for them: when he got home, he begged of his wife to let them be dreſt for ſupper; when ſhe came to open the ſmalleſt, ſhe found a piece of thin paper in the guts, or inſide, which ſurprized her not a little; ſhe then called her huſband, who immediately ordered a baſon of water, and took out the remainder of the inſide, amongſt which they found four pieces more of the ſame ſort of paper, which they waſhed, and, when properly put together, theſe proved a bank-note of fifty pounds.—It was thought the note had belonged to ſome gentleman that was drowned.

A computed Expence of writing to a Great Man.

	£.	s.	d.
PEN, ink, and paper - -	0	0	1
To a perſon to find when his grace is at home - -	0	1	0
To the potter, for receiving the letter and giving it to the valet - -	0	10	6
To the valet who delivers it - -	1	1	0
To the footman who brings the anſwer	0	5	0
	£1	17	7

The Blackſmith Mayor.

IT ſo happened one year, that a blackſmith was choſen mayor of Liverpool: after he had been about

about fourteen days in his office, walking down Castle Street, was met by a jack tar who took the wall of him, which affronted his worship so much, that he took him by the collar, and asked him if he knew who he was? "No," "replied the tar" Why, you dog, I am the mayor of "Liverpool." "Mare or Horse," said Jack, "'tis the same thing to me." His worship then called out for help, and ordered him to be brought before him at his own house. When he entered the room, his worship said to the town-clerk, "Commit "this fellow to goal immediately." "I must know "for what," replied the clerk. Then his worship told him, "You are in the wr ng sir," said the clerk (who was a little wiser than his worship) "you "can't do any such thing." "No," replied the smith, "if that's the case, I would not give a fart to "be mayor of Liverpool, unless I could send who I "please to goal."

Much such another il iterate coxcomb was mayor of Bristol, who one day committed a man and his horse to Newgate, for taking the wall of his coach.

The London Alderman.

SOME time ago, when the bench of aldermen were sitting at Guildhall, it so happened, that they could not agree in their opinions, which obliged the affair in debate to be put to the vote; when it came to Mr. alderman Alexander's vote, he got up, and begged the favour of the court to excuse him five minutes; "for that, with their leave, he would step "home and ask his wife;" which set all the *old gentlemen* in a fit of laughter. He was met in Lad-lane, in his full robes, up to his buckles in dirt, by Mr. B—— who enquired into his hurry; the alderman replied, with a knowing eye, That he was going to

conſult at home about a particular affair: the gentleman ſmoaked him and replied, "Ay, ay, ſir, two "heads are better than one." "That's the very "reaſon," replied the alderman, "I am going to "my wife; and am only allowed five minutes to "perform it in by the bench."

A new Story of WHITFIELD.

MRS. B——d, a tradeſman's wife in the Haymarket, like the reſt of her fooliſh neighbours, took it into her head to follow Mr. Whitfield, unknown to her huſband. Whitfield enquired of her neighbours into her circumſtances, and thought the propereſt time to bleed her was the preſent; he ordered his clerk, when ſervice was over, to go to her, and order her to ſtay, for that the doctor had ſomething to ſay to her in private. When the congregation was diſperſed, he told her that he was afraid ſhe had lived a very profuſe life: ſhe ſeemed to acknowledge it with tears in her eyes. He then begged her to fix an hour the next day when ſhe could be private, and he would wait on her.——The doctor came to the appointed time, and, after many hints in regard to money, of which ſhe took no notice, he then told her, *that he was afraid her affairs were on the black ſide of the book*, and that it would be attended with ſome expence to retrieve them. She replied, "Sir, "'tis not fitting that the charges ſhould come out of "your pocket;" ſo got up and went into the next room to fetch a bank note of twenty pounds, which her huſband had given her to lock up three days before. When ſhe returned, the doctor ſeeing the *note*, ſaid, "Madam, take notice, what you give unto me, "you give to the Lord; for I am no more than a "ſervant here." When he had pocketed the note,

he

he thought it the beſt way to make off--ſo riſing from his chair, ſaid, " Madam, I will diſpatch one of my " little meſſengers with the money, and doubt not " but, after one month's repentance, you will be " made one of my heavenly flock."---About a week after, Mr. B——d, being in want of money, deſired his wife to fetch him the bank note; ſhe, looking very fooliſh, replied, " I have lent it to Mr. Whit- " field." " Have you," ſaid he, " any memoran- " dum for it?" " No, my dear," replied ſhe, " it " was to give to the Lord, to make atonement for my " ſins." " If that's the caſe, I'll wait upon him."--- He immediately went to his houſe, with a good oak ſtick in his hand; and, when introduced to the doctor, told him he came for the bank note his wife lent him, calling her by her name; *the doctor ſeemed planetſtruck*, and replied, *that he never borrowed any money of his wife.* " What," ſays Mr. B——d, " then you have tricked her out of it; ſo much the " worſe; the note was mine, ſir, and *if you don't* " *return it, or twenty pounds of good ſound money, I'll* " *break every bone in your ſkin.*"——The doctor finding him reſolute, went trembling to his deſk, and returned him the very note---Mr. B——d took the note, and told him, " that if ever he caught him " within his doors, he would certainly lay him upon " the fire."——The doctor went to the door with him, and made him a very low bow, as if they had parted good friends.

The Senſible Engliſh Farmer.

AN Engliſh vicarage being vacant, where the gift was in the inhabitants, many candidates offered, but the pariſhioners (being chiefly farmers) came to the reſolution to chuſe no one who would not previ-

roufly promiſe to give them ſuch weather as they ſhould require. Many conſcientious men rejected the living on this account; but at length a ſpirited little curate was hardy enough to make the promiſe, and obtained the vicarage. It happened that one part of the pariſh was high, light, ſandy, arable land; the other part a vale of good meadow and paſture land, though ſubject to be marſhy and overflown after a long continuance of rain. Such weather chanced to come ſoon after the choice of the vicar, when the Vale-farmers put him in mind of his promiſe, and inſiſted on having at leaſt a fortnight or three weeks of dry weather. After ſervice, the clergyman cauſed all his pariſhioners to aſſemble in the veſtry, where he delivered the petition of the Vale-farmers, and requeſted to know if dry weather was the general wiſh of the whole pariſh. The Hill-farmers remonſtrated with fury againſt it, declaring they never ſaw better weather in all their lives; and that if the parſon ſhould attempt to alter it, it would be an injuſtice to them and their families. The Vicar then addreſſing himſelf to the Vale-farmers, ſaid---You ſee, gentlemen, it is impoſſible for me to grant your requeſt; I am willing to perform my promiſe, but cannot keep it with one part of you, if I break it with the other: the weather muſt now remain as it is, 'till providence ſends it more ſuitable to your deſires.

A curious Watch.

THE ſieur Ranzonet, watch-maker at Nancy, in Lorraine, has made a watch of the common ſize, in which he has fixed an inſtrument of his own invention, which plays at pleaſure an air *en duo*, with all the exactneſs and preciſion, that can be wiſhed: the ſound is very agreeable, diſtinct, and may be heard from

from one end of a common ſized chamber to the other. The harmony of this inſtrument is accelerated or ſlackened by a regulator, and all the parts of this little piece of mechaniſm, are diſtributed with ſuch art, as not in the leaſt to affect the movement of the watch; it is alſo ſo nicely conſtructed, as not to be affected either by heat or cold, dryneſs or moiſture.

Anecdote of the late MARQUIS *of* GRANBY.

A Swiſs Officer in the French ſervice, whoſe corps had been defeated in a ſkirmiſh, where the Marquis of Granby commanded, on his return to the Camp, was ſurprized by a party of Coſſacks in our pay, who took him priſoner, and likewiſe took from him his watch and a purſe of twenty-ſeven guineas. Being entirely deſtitute of money, he found himſelf, though provided for with common neceſſaries as a priſoner, in want of many little conveniencies. In this dilemma, hearing of the virtues of the Marquis, he explained his ſituation to him by letter; the Marquis immediately waited on him, and addreſſed him in the following manner:

"SIR,

"I am ſorry it is not conſiſtent with our military policy to have your watch and money returned; it is what ſhould be done, was it an act committed by any of the regulars under my command; but as theſe are a body of men who enter into the ſervice merely for the ſake of plunder, you will readily ſee it would not be ſo prudent to require a reſtitution; however, Sir, I am happy I have it in my power to be at any time ſerviceable to a brave man; here is (putting a purſe of thirty guineas into his hand) what I am in hopes will defray your extraordinary expences, till you are re-

leaſed; and here is (preſenting him with a gold repeating watch) what I flatter myſelf will put you in mind of the Commander of the Britiſh forces."

The Swiſs, after recovering the ſurprize of ſuch eccentric generoſity, returned him many thanks, and ſaid, he would part with his life ſooner than his preſent. A little after he was releaſed, when making the affair known to his regiment, they immediately returned the money to the Marquis, accompanied with a very valuable ſword, and a letter of thanks, ſigned by every Officer in the Corps.

Anecdote of JAMES HIRST.

IN the month of January, 1771, there died in the neighbourhood of Penniſtone, Yorkſhire, James Hirſt, who in the year 1711, lived ſervant with the Hon. Edward Wortley, Eſq;---It happened one day, delivering a parcel of letters to his maſter, by miſtake he kept back one of Mr. Wortley's, and delivered one that he had been writing to his Miſtreſs; it was not long before James diſcovered the miſtake, and hurried back to his maſter, but unfortunately for poor James this letter happened to be one of the firſt that preſented itſelf to Mr. Wortley, and before James returned, he had given way to a curioſity that led him to open and read the love-told ſtory of an amorous footman; it was in vain that he ſolicited to have it returned to him; "No (ſays Mr. Wortley) James, you ſhall be a great man, and this letter ſhall be publiſhed in the Spectators." He communicated the letter to his friend Sir Richard Steele, and it was accordingly publiſhed in James's own words, and is that letter in Vol. I. No. 71. of the Spectators, beginning dear Betty.——James ſoon found means to remove that cruelty of which he complains in his letter, but before their

wiſhes

wiſhes were compleated, Betty's death put a haſty period to a paſſion that would be no diſcredit to folks of a much ſuperior rank than theirs.

A.

POLITICAL MINIATURE PICTURES, *and* CONUNDRUMS.

Q. WHY is his M—— like a lady's legs?

A. Becauſe he *acts* under a *petticoat*.

Q. Why did the Duke of C———, when in the *celebrated* room at St. Alban's, appear like an honeſt man to the people below ſtairs?

A. Becauſe he was *above* doing a *bad* action.

Q. Why are both H—— of P—— like a boil?

A. Becauſe they are full of *corruption*.

Q. Why is Lord North like a bad geographer?

A. Becauſe he is *wrong* in *laying down* Falkland's Iſlands.

Q. Why is Lord Mansfield like a corkſcrew?

A. Becauſe he is full of *twiſts*.

Q. Why is the above perſonage like an expert dancer?

A. Becauſe he is a good *ſhuffler*.

Q. Why is Serjeant Glynn like a careful Phyſician?

A. Becauſe he takes care of the *conſtitution*.

Q. Why is Lord Barrington like a flea?

A. Becauſe he is a blood-ſucker.

Q. Why is Lord Holland like a credulous publican?

A. Becauſe he keeps up a *long reckoning*.

Q. Why is his ſon like a quick tapſter?

A. Becauſe he *draws* faſt.

Q. Why is Lord Halliſax entitled to be a ſtaff officer.

A. Becauſe he has *paid* for a *General Warrant*.

Q. Why is Lord Chatham to the Miniſtry, like a bottle of ſparkling champaigne?

A. Becauſe

A. Becauſe he often *flies* in their *faces*.

Q. Why is the Miniſtry like one afraid of a bliſtering plaiſter?

A. Becauſe they are *frightened* at *Spaniſh flies*.

A Deſcription of an AUTOMATON, *which plays at Cheſs; in a letter from the rev. Mr.* DUTENS, *at Peterſbourgh, in Hungary, dated July* 24, 1770.

DURING my ſtay in this city, I have been ſo happy as to form an acquaintance with M. de Kempell, an Aulic Counſellor, and Director General of the ſalt-mines in Hungary. It ſeems impoſſible to attain to a more perfect knowledge of mechanics than this gentleman hath done: at leaſt no artiſt has yet been able to produce a machine ſo wonderful in its kind, as what he compoſed about a year ago. M. de Kempell, excited about the accounts he received of the extraordinary performances of the celebrated M. de Vaucanſon, and of ſome other men of genius in France and England, at firſt aimed at nothing more than to imitate thoſe artiſts: but he has done more; he has far excelled him; he has compoſed an Automaton, which can play at cheſs with the moſt ſkilful players. This machine repreſents a man of the natural ſize, dreſſed like a Turk, ſitting before a table which holds the cheſs-board. This table (which is about three feet and a half long, and about two feet and a half broad) is ſupported by four feet, that roll on caſtors, in order the more eaſily to change its ſituation, which the compoſer fails not to do from time to time, in order to take away all ſuſpicion of any communication. Both the table and the figure are full of wheels, ſprings and levers. M. de Kempell makes no difficulty of ſhewing the inſide of the machine, eſpecially when he finds any one ſuſpects a boy to be

concealed

concealed in it. I have examined with attention all the parts both of the table and figure, and I am well aſſured there is not the leaſt ground for ſuch an imputation. I have played a game of cheſs with the Automaton myſelf. I have particularly remarked, with great aſtoniſhment, the preciſion with which it made the various and complicated movements of the arm, with which it plays. It raiſes this arm, it advances it towards that part of the cheſs-board on which the piece ſtands, which ought to be moved: and then, by a movement of the wriſt, it brings the hand down upon the piece, opens the hand, cloſes it upon the piece in order to graſp it, lifts it up, and places it upon the ſquare it is to be removed to.—— This done, it lays its arm down upon a cuſhion, which ſtands beſide the cheſs-board. If it ought to take one of its adverſary's pieces, then, by one entire movement, it removes that piece quite off the cheſs-board, and, by a ſeries of ſuch movements as I have been deſcribing, it returns to take up its own piece, and place it in the ſquare which the other had left vacant. I attempted to practice a ſmall deception, by giving the Queen the move of a Knight; but my mechanic opponent was not to be ſo impoſed on: he took up my Queen and replaced her in the ſquare ſhe had been removed from. All this is done with the ſame readineſs that a common player ſhews at this game; and I have often engaged with perſons, who played neither ſo expeditiouſly nor ſo ſkilfully as this Automaton, who yet would have been extremely affronted, if one had compared them to him. You will, perhaps, expect me to propoſe ſome conjectures, as to the means employed to direct this machine in its movements. I wiſh I could form any, that were reaſonable and well founded; but, notwithſtanding the minute attention with which I have repeatedly obſerved it, I have not been able, in the leaſt degree, to

form

form any hypotheſis which could ſatisfy myſelf. The Engliſh Ambaſſador, Prince Guiſtiniani, and ſeveral Engliſh Lords, for whom the inventor had the complaiſance to make the figure play, ſtood round the table while I played the game. They all had their eyes on M. de Kempell, who ſtood by the table, or ſometimes removed five or ſix feet from it; yet not one of them could diſcover the leaſt motion in him that could influence the Automaton. They who had ſeen the effects produced by the loadſtone, in the curious exhibitions on the Boulevards at Paris, cried out, that the loadſtone muſt have been the means here employed to direct the arm. But, beſides, that there are many objections to this ſuppoſition, M. de Kempell, with whom I have had ſome long converſation on this ſubject, offers to let any one bring as cloſe as he pleaſes to the table, the ſtrongeſt and beſt armed magnet that can be found, or any weight of iron whatever, without the leaſt fear that the movements of his machine will be affected or diſturbed by it. He alſo withdraws to any diſtance you pleaſe, and lets the figure play four or five moves ſucceſſively, without approaching it. It is unneceſſary to remark, that the marvellous in this Automaton conſiſts chiefly in this, that it has not (as in others, the moſt celebrated machines of this ſort) one determined ſeries of movements, but that it always moves in conſequence of the manner in which its opponent moves, which produces an amazing multitude of different combinations in its movements. M. de Kempell winds up from time to time the ſpring of the arm of this Automaton, in order to renew its *moving force*; but this you will obſerve has no relation to its *guiding force*, or power of direction, which makes the great merit of this machine. In general, I am of opinion that the compoſer influences the direction of almoſt every ſtroke played by the Automaton, although, as I have ſaid, I have

ſome-

ſometimes ſeen him leave it to itſelf for many moves together, which, in my opinion, is the moſt difficult circumſtances of all to comprehend in what regards this machine. M. de Kempell has the more merit in this production, as he complains that his deſigns have not always been ſeconded by workmen ſo ſkilful as was requiſite, to the exact preciſion of a work of this nature; and he hopes he ſhall, e're long, produce to the world performances ſtill more ſurprizing than this. Indeed one may expect every thing from his knowledge and ſkill, which are exceedingly enhanced by his uncommon modeſty. Never did genius triumph with leſs oſtentation.

I am, Sir, your's, &c.

LOUIS DUTENS.

☞ *We beg leave to return our moſt grateful acknowledgements for the communication of this very curious and elaborate piece of art, which far ſurpaſſes, both in mechaniſm and ingenuity of the deception, any other of the ſame kind that has ever been exhibited; and, indeed, to ſuch a degree, as would ſtagger the belief of the fact, if it was not vouched by an authority, that removes all doubt of the truth.*

The Penitent Coxcomb.

I Am a gentleman of character, I aſſure you, a perſon of conſequence and diſtinction. I am particularly acquainted with the firſt perſonages in the kingdom; have the honour to be admitted to their private cloſets, and now and then to drink a diſh of chocolate with their adorable ladies; where I hear the chat of the day, damn half a dozen of characters to eternal diſgrace, then kiſs the fair hands of the ladies, ſwear they are the moſt perfect part of Heaven's works, tell

a few

a few other extravagant lies, and make my exit. From thence I generally wander through the ſtreets moſt inhabited by milliners, ogle the girls, buy half a yard of ribbon at one ſhop, a ſword-knot at another, and admire the delicate workmanſhip of a pair of ruffles at a third: but when any thing of this ſort ſtrikes me (like old Philpot) to ſave my money, am always ready with my joke; I tell them, they really are admirable! but a —— for ſuch elegant work to be thrown away on ſuch clumſy brown paws——O la!——burſt into a horſe laugh while the civil creatures are doing me but juſtice, by endeavouring to ſell their goods; rub my hands, move the left gently to my lips, kiſs it with an air, and wiſh them a good morning. In this manner, with a lounge in the Park, I generally paſs the former part of the day. When I firſt began this courſe of employment, a particular *teen dreſs* for the ladies gained me the appellation of the *gentle, handſome Swain*; under which title I paſſed for a long time, in a continual converſation with the ſofter ſex enlarged my ideas, enlightened my underſtanding, and p liſhed my manners, till one evening, *with theſe advantages of experience*, not to mention expence, I came accidentally into a room filled with a very polite company of ſelect friends of both ſexes; and I had not been in the houſe above half an hour before the gentlemen diſappeared, and I was left *ſolus* with a brilliant circle of females; which one of the ladies obſerving, with a *gaiety de cure*, not to be deſcribed, repeated the following lines:

Stunn'd by keen wit, the ſwains, with dazzl'd awe,
View the rich diamond poliſh'd without flaw;
And by its ſparkling beams with envy they withdraw.

From that moment I was known by no other name than *the accompliſhed Swain*.

The other day, as I came from paſſing the former part of the morning in the manner I have before mentioned,

tioned, and had not been from lord Castalio's door above half an hour, where I had been admiring a new pair of stone buckles (very fine water I assure you) or a little mote, before Miss-chance (I believe it was) brought me into a street where some milliners live that I have wished to have an opportunity of being acquainted with. I wanted to see them, but had not courage to go to the house, for, curse me, I had enquired among my acquaintance, and found the girls were modest! In fine, I called a council within, the determination of which was, to proceed at all events. Well, after a few hems I pulled down my waistcoat, adjusted my stock, stroaked my chin, clapped my hands underneath my sword-belt, marched into the house boldly, and asked for a sword-knot. I staid about half an hour, chatted of all the polite news I could recollect or invent; told the girls all the *freecause* that had, or had not happened, left my old knot to have a new one made by, and wished them a good morning. This was what I had wanted. It afforded me an opportunity of making myself conspicuous. I seized it, wrote a letter immediately in a feigned woman's hand (as coming from her I marked) full of soft things, such as long being in love, but wanting opportunity to explain, and taking care to mention some circumstances about the sword knot. This letter I directed to myself, and took care to send it to the Coffee-house at a time when the room would be full of company; that I might have the best opportunity of shining. The letter came in proper time; I opened it, read it loud to the company, gave them an account where I bought my sword-knot, enjoyed a most superlative happiness amidst the applause of admiring auditors, adjusted myself at the glass, and sat down to write an answer: which, curse me but I did, (though that to myself was of my own doing) and sent it by a porter immediately in the face of the company. I

told

told the girl, that I was not unacquainted, and therefore had obſerved ſhe had very particularly noticed me, which I would return with intereſt. But, my dear, would you think it, the inſolent chit had the aſſurance to return my letter open, by the porter that carried it, and a gentleman that happened to be in the Coffee-room who knew her family and connections, aſſured me, that he imagined her to be a woman of character; and that her friends, he was certain, would call me to a ſevere account. He alſo hinted that ſhe had two ſtrapping brothers. Ad's heart, I was in a terrible taking. I ran immediately to the houſe, proteſted, lied, and ſwore the letter was ſent me by an unknown perſon, that I would bring the porter, and he ſhould ſwear it. I begged ten thouſand pardons, ſwore I would ſooner cut my own throat than injure a virtuous woman's character, (though by the by bragging is my delightful hobby) that if ever I could find the author I would take him by the noſe, for attempting ſuch a raſcally impoſition, and a thouſand other extravagant things: but thoſe deviliſh brothers ſo run in my head, that I could not bring out one word articulate, and a man happening to come into the ſhop while I was there, I much wonder I did not leave ſomething behind, to remind their noſes of

The *Penitent Coxcomb.*

A Sketch of the Law.

LAW! law! law! is like a fine woman's temper; *a very difficult ſtudy.*——Law is like a book of ſurgery;--a great many *terrible* caſes in it.——Law is like fire and water; very good ſervants; but very bad, when they get the upper hand of us:--it is like a homely genteel woman, very well to follow:--It is alſo,

alſo like a ſcolding wife, very bad when it follows us —And again it is like bad weather, moſt people chuſe to keep out of it.——In law, there are four parts :—— the quidlibate ;—the quodlibate ;—the quid-pro-quo ; —and the finaquanon——Imprimis, the quidlibate, or who began firſt ? Becauſe, in all actions of aſſault, the law is clear, that *probis jokis*, is *abſolutis maris, fine jokis*: which being elegantly and claſſically rendered into Engliſh, is, that whoſoever he be that gave the firſt ſtroke, it was abſolutely ill and without a joke. Secondly, the quodlibate, or the damages ; but that the law has nothing to do with ; only to ſtate them ; for whatever damages enſue, they are all the client's perquiſites, according to that ancient Norman motto ;—if he is caſt, or caſtandum, he is " ſemper idem ruinandum."——Thirdly, quidpro-quo, feeing council,—giving words for money, or having money for words; according to that ancient Norman motto, " Sicurat lex." We live to perplex. ——Fourthly, the ſinaquanon ; or, without ſomething, what would any thing be good for? Without a large *wig* what would be the out *lines* of the law!

A Cauſe.

JACK the groom, and Mary the cook-maid, had a law-ſuit, wherein Jack was plaintiff and Mary the cook-maid defendant. Jack came home a little in liquor and made a forcible entry on the cook's premiſſes, the kitchen, and demanded a ſop in the pan. Mary the defendant inſiſted on a right of refuſal : (a ſop in the pan you muſt know is a very ſerious thing) for without perquiſites, what are all honours and places good for? Nothing more than an embroidered button-hole : and if we conſider a miniſter of ſtate as the nation's cook, the perquiſites are the ſop in the

pan, with which *ommium gatherum* chooſe to greaſe their fingers——Well, plaintiff Jack ſeized Mary by the left hand, there was the quidlibate; Mary took Jack by the right hand and pulled him into the dripping pan;—thnre was the quodlibate;—now, if the dripping-pan had not been there, he could not have fallen into it; and if he had not been there, the dripping-pan could not have received him——and this is law; and the loquaciouſneſs of the law, is multiloquacious:—foraſmuch—nevertheleſs—moreover—likewiſe and alſo—

The liberty of the law is the happineſs of the Engliſh; and it is very happy for us Engliſhmen, that we have the liberty to go to law.

An Oatmeal Sermon.

SOME years ſince, an old woman, named Joan Barnet, who lived in Weſtminſter, and uſed to ſell oatmeal for her ſupport, died on the 2d day of November. By her will, ſhe left the following legacy.

That a ſermon ſhould be preached annually on that day of her deceaſe, (commonly called the oatmeal ſermon) for which the clergyman is allowed a guinea, half a crown for reading prayers, ſeventeen pence for the clerk, and ſeventeen pence for the ſexton, and forty ſhillings for twenty poor antient houſe-keepers, to be paid annually for ever with a meſs of water gruel in the morning for the poor.

Odd Nature of Ruſſian Sheep.

IN Ruſſia there are ſheep that have ears, which hang down like thoſe of a hog; they have long tails, and ſo fat, that ſome weigh upwards of fifty pounds.

Wonderful

Wonderful Trees of Mexico, culled Mete.

THIS tree the inhabitants plant and dreſs as we do our vines. It has fifty kind of leaves, which ſerve for different uſes; when tender they make conſerves, paper, flax, mantles, matts, ſhoes, girdles, cordage; and when properly burnt down, dry malt better than our cinders from coal. On theſe leaves grow prickles ſo ſtrong and ſharp, that they uſe them inſtead of ſaws; and ſome ſo long, that the working people uſe them inſtead of knives. From the root of this tree comes a juice like ſyrup, which if you let ſettle, will become honey; if you purify it, it will become ſugar: you may alſo make wine and vinegar of it, both which properly mixed make a better drink than our beſt ale; if they give it their children when young, they are ſure to have double the ſtrength of thoſe brought up by ſuckling: the rind roaſted heals any wound or burn; and from the top boughs drops a gum, which, properly diſſolved, cauſes barren women to have children, and is an excellent antidote againſt poiſon.

Up Stairs backwards.

AN Engliſh ſervant, was ſent to an acquaintance of his maſter's, who lived at a watch-maker's in Dame-ſtreet. When he came to the ſhop, he aſked if the gentleman was at home; the watch-maker anſwered in the affirmative, and directed him to go up three pair of ſtairs *backwards*. After a journey of half an hour, and aſtoniſhing the whole h uſe with his noiſe, he arrived at the door and delivered his meſſage. The gentleman gave him a dram, which he took ſaying, "Long life to your good natured heart

" and to mine, and I ſhould be obliged to you to tell " me a better way down, for the man told me I was " to come up *backwards*; and if, ſir, I go down the " ſame way, I am certain I ſhall break my neck." The gentleman burſt into a fit of laughing, and explained the watch-maker's meaning.

A poor Poet's begging Epiſtle.

SIR,

YOUR friendſhip I court,
For a timely ſupport,
My guts are grown wond'rous limber;
My belly complains
Of the want of my brains,
Which us'd to ſupply it with timber.

May I ſwing like a dog,
If I have a hog,
A Smelt, a George, or a Teſter;
But here am I pent
To keep a ſad Lent,
Without any hopes of an Eaſter.

I've ſent to my betters
Some Circular letters
Of this my diſmal condition:
But you, Sir, I'm ſure,
My diſtemper will cure;
Or a halter muſt be my Phyſician.

'Tis the firſt time that I,
E'er a rhyming did try:
In which, if I had any ſkill,
In a more elegant way,
As I thought, I would ſay,
Your obliged ſervant Ra. Argill.

P. S.

P. S.

I hope you'll excuſe,
My unpolite muſe,
Did Bacchus my fancy inſpire,
Addreſs you I wou'd,
In verſes as good,
As any of Pope or of Prior.

A Reprimand.

A Rich gentleman of Venice, remarkable for his hoſpitality, being ſent ambaſſador to a certain court of Europe, was on his public entry treated with marks of contempt on account of his deformity, by the populace; which obſerving, he told them, by way of reprimand, that they had little cauſe to wonder at what they ſaw: it being the cuſtom of his court to ſend ambaſſadors ſuitable to the places they went to: mean perſonages to mean and baſe Cities; and men of excellent form, to places of reputation and dignity.

A Miſchance.

AS lolling in an elbow chair
Sage Galen ſat, I did appear;
Stradling advanc'd with fooliſh look,
Reſpectful bow'd, and thus I ſpoke:
Dear Sir---a---hem---I've lately had,
A——ſmall miſchance a—very bad,—
I have——a——not been us'd to ride,
A——very ſore——a——ſore backſide.
The doctor, with a decent frown,
Moſt gravely anſwer'd, pray ſit down;
I, much ſurpriz'd at his command,
Reply'd, good Sir, I'd rather ſtand;
For troth your wooden ſtool will ſcarce,
Supply a plaiſter to my a——.

An open Heart.

A Country fellow, one Jonathan Young of Hounſelow, had a great regard for Betty Sly, a young maid, as he thought her; and that they might live quietly and peaceably together hereafter, he thought of this expedient; one day he told her, that it was his full intent to marry her, for which reaſon he would tell her all the ſecrets of his heart, that their alliance might be the ſtronger. Amongſt many other things, he told her, that in the heat of blood, he got a ſon on a friend of his, which was ſtill living, and deſired her not to take it amiſs. "No, no," ſaid ſhe, "I am very pleaſed, for a friend of mine got "me with child of a daughter; and if you intend to "make our alliance ſtronger, it may be done with "another marriage, that is, between your ſon and "my daughter."

The Jew councell'd.

ONE of the ſons of Gideon, a famous Jew, was on the point of being married to a Chriſtian; on which the father, who had no objection to the religion of the lady, but to the ſmallneſs of her fortune, expoſtulated with his ſon, and told him, that he might have a lady with more money: but the ſon vindicating his choice, replied, that whether he would conſent or not, he would marry the lady; and if he refuſed to give him a proper ſhare of wealth, he would turn Chriſtian, and then he ſhould claim the benefit of an Engliſh law, and obtain half he poſſeſſed. At this anſwer Gideon was greatly confounded, and reſolved to apply to counſel, to know whether there was any ſuch law: the counſellor replied that there was,

and

and that his ſon, upon turning Chriſtian, would obtain half his fortune; "but if you'll make me a pre-
"ſent of ten guineas, I'll put you in a way to diſap-
"point him, and the graceleſs dog ſhall not be able
"to obtain a farthing." Gideon, overjoyed, pulled out the money, clapped it into the counſellor's hand, expreſſing his impatience to know how he was to proceed: when the counſellor returned, with a ſmile, "You have nothing to do, Mr. Gideon, but to turn
"Chriſtian yourſelf."

The noble Revenge. A TALE.

ALL people, languages, and nations,
In ſummer time have country ſtations,
And have contrivances and ways,
Some very old and others new,
To get the better of long days,
Which are the hardeſt to ſubdue.

In Italy the morning paſſes
In viſiting and hearing maſſes;
And every creature after dinner,
Retire in couples or alone;
Both male and female, ſaint and ſinner,
Strip themſelves nak'd as a ſtone.

All the world's out when night approaches,
A-foot, in curricles, and coaches;
Then they give concerts, and act plays,
And ſup at one another's houſes;
The wives go with their chechiſbays,
Their mates with other people's ſpouſes.

In France, and probably in Spain,
Summer gets on with toil and pain;
The ladies ſally with long canes,
To gather flowers, or pick a ſallet,
Attended by fantaſtic ſwains,
Like figure-dancers in a ballet.

Some ſtay within, and do much better;
Some only ſtay to write a letter;
Others into the garden run,
To bowl, or ſhoot with bows and arrows;
Strephon with Chloe and a gun,
Makes love, and fires among the ſparrows;
Kill all the tenants of the grove;
But let thoſe live, that only live to love.

Pray, how do Engliſh ſummers go?
They paſs their ſummers but ſo ſo;
More like the Germans than the French;
Drinking as long as they are able,
And never thinking of a wench,
'Till all the liquor's off the table:

But when they give their mind that way,
No people more alert than they:
Venus is cruelly afraid,
Bacchus encroaches there ſo much,
Leſt he ſhould ſpoil the Cyprian trade
As Plutus ſpoils it with the Dutch.

One ſummer, in the month of June,
My lady was quite out of tune;
To ſet things right, ſhe and my lord
Repair to the old country ſeat,
Which to enjoy with one accord,
They lie apart and ſeldom meet.

They neither need to mope alone,
Each have companions of their own;
His are the worſt without all queſtion,
Led captains, 'ſquires, parſons, without end:
Her's, females of a ſtrong digeſtion,
Mingotti, and her fiddling friend.

But when my lord had a reſource,
Which made things equaller, of courſe,

There

There is a place his lordſhip chuſes,
I know not upon what pretence,
To call the temple of the muſes,
Built with leſs judgment than expence.

To puſh on time a little faſter,
My lord appointing a toaſt-maſter,
Oft to the temple's ſacred ſhade
Retires, like Numa, to his charmer,
To meet ſome fav'rite chamber-maid,
Or the fair daughter of ſome farmer.

One afternoon a ſpy reveal'd
The ſecrets that thoſe walls conceal'd—
When my lord was inclin'd to take it,
There was a room for making tea,
My lady's woman us'd to make it,
And always us'd to keep the key.

He had left off tea ſome time; but why,
Abigail was reſolv'd to ſpy.
Within the room ſhe made, or found,
A hole to peep into the next;
Her labour with ſucceſs was crown'd,
Tho' the diſcovery made her vex'd.

He left off tea, you may infer,
Becauſe he was tir'd to death of her.
She ſaw as plain as eyes could ſee,
And never ſaw him half ſo keen,
My lord, as buſy as a bee,
Sipping the ſweets of ſweet eighteen.

To be diſcarded and turn'd off,
Of every ſervant wench the ſcoff,
For whom? the wife of a mean taylor,
Such was the nymph in the muſes houſe!
She look'd as if ſhe could impale her,
Even as a taylor could a louſe.

My lord return'd, ſated with glory,
And Betty ran to tell her ſtory—
Says ſhe, your ladyſhip's ſo kind,
My zeal for you made me ſuſpicious;
I watch'd, but never thought to find,
Any thing downright flagitious.

Againſt mankind ſhe declaim'd next,
And then ſtood cloſely to her text;
Minutely painted the whole ſcene,
The nymph, her age, her lovely figure;
And, to encreaſe her lady's ſpleen,
She magnify'd his lordſhip's vigour.

Great was her ladyſhip's diſtreſs:
How ſhe would act, is hard to gueſs:
All folks allow revenge is ſweet,
And many think there's nothing ſweeter;
But 'tis a maxim with the great,
The meaner the revenge, the greater.

Caprice, according to *Fontaine*,
Guides almoſt ev'ry female brain:
If meer caprice can raiſe a flame,
To make a dwarf enjoy a queen;
Revenge may make the nobleſt dame,
Employ an inſtrument as mean.

Nature left to herſelf, moſt prone is,
To follow the *Lex talionis*:
In every nice and doubtful caſe,
My lady drove as nature led;
And ſo ſhe took in my lord's place,
Her rival's huſband to her bed.

A taylor's nothing on his board,
In bed, he's better than a lord:
Her ladyſhip found him ſo there;
And by his help after ten years,
At laſt produc'd a ſon and heir,
That made my lord the happieſt of peers.

History of AMERICANUS *and* ELIZA.

HEROES and conquerors are the growth of every age, and almoſt every ſoil; but where ſhall we find a hero the conqueror of his paſſions? Love, irreſiſtable love, levels all mankind; the prince, the patriot, the philoſopher, and the poet, are alike compelled to lay aſide their power, their rhetorick, their reaſon, and their muſe, or rather exert them all to woo the fair arbitreſs of their fate. The greateſt warriers are vanquiſhed with a ſmile, and rouſed with a frown, as all hiſtories antient and modern evince. Achilles yielded to his Briſeis, Alexander to Roxana, Cæſar to his Cleopatra; and our modern Edwards, Henries, and Charles's have known the force of the artillery of love. Can we then wonder that the brave, the ſenſible, the generous Americanus ſhould be ſubdued by the beauteous Eliza?

Americanus, noble by birth, great in ſentiment, genius and valour, in his youth attracted the attention of a prince, in whom all theſe virtues ſhone in their brigheſt luſtre. A general himſelf, a commander who had ſaved his country from the invading rebellious foe, could diſtinguiſh merit even in obſcurity; but when it appeared ſo near his perſon, as it did in Americanus, the congeniality of virtuous ſouls prompted him to watch for opportunities of requiring ſo much worth. One at length occurred: Americanus was, as the recommendation of this great prince, appointed commander in chief of an expedition that was as glorious as it was arduous. He conquered an almoſt inacceſſible enemy; and the ſucceſs that crowned this enterprize could be ſurpaſſed by nothing but the courage, ſkill, and intrepidity of the leader.

Americanus had ſome time before this event declared his paſſion for the fair Eliza. His perſonal

qualif-

qualifications, his elegant addreſs, his rank in life, all united to plead in his behalf; and Eliza found they were too powerful advocates to reſiſt. A connexion took place that had every mark of immutable conſtancy.

Eliza was at this time not more than eighteen. Nature had been laviſh in her favour; the moſt exact ſymmetry of ſhape, the niceſt proportion in every limb, were ſure to excite the curioſity of the moſt tranſient ſpectator to view a face——Oh! for the pencil of a Raphael, a Rubens, a Vandyke, or a Reynolds! My feeble pen dare not attempt the deſcription. Reader, image to yourſelf a complexion of the happieſt mixture of roſes and lillies, eyes that kindled love at every glance, ruby lips that ſeemed to bluſh at concealing two rows of the moſt regular ivory, a taper graceful neck that conducted you involuntarily to a boſom, which ſhe did not diſcloſe, and I ſhall follow her example.

The beauties of her mind were ſtill greater than thoſe of her perſon: to an uncommon ſhare of good ſenſe, ſhe united all the ornaments of female educarion, which were much improved by her great admiration of the beſt authors, with whom ſhe was intimately acquainted, and paricularly our dramatick poets: of theſe ſhe was and ſtill remains an enthuſiaſtick admirer, which ſhe teſtifies by her frequent appearance at the repreſentation of their beſt pieces: though it has been obſerved ſhe rather gives the preference to the exhibitions at Covent Garden.

Such is Eliza! Can we then wonder that the ſympathy of reciprocal merit ſhould frame an union between her and Americanus, or that this alliance ſhould ſtill ſubſiſt in all its fervor? Nature and fortune ſeemed to allot them for each other, by every congenial ſentiment, every endearing tie of love and friendſhip.

Whilſt Americanus was vindicating the rights of his country, and the liberties of mankind, the fair

Eliza,

Eliza, unable to ſupport his abſence in a place where every object recalled him to her remembrance, with all the horrors and perils of war, repaired to the continent, where ſhe paſſed the whole campaign in the moſt recluſe manner, inceſſantly praying for his ſafety and ſpeedy return. Her prayers were heard, and ſhe flew on the wings of love, at the firſt ſummons, to meet him. The moſt pathetick ſcene took place at this interview, when he laid at her feet his laurels and his treaſures.

It was now that Americanus had an opportunity of diſplaying all that noble generoſity and magnanimity of ſoul, which ſo ſtrongly characterize him. He ſought for merit in ſphere of life, aud wherever he found it he rewarded it. His Eliza too was not inattentive to female virtues.——She reſcued many beautiful virgins from the ſnares of vice and infamy; and and gave temporary relief to all that appeared real objects beneficence. But her greateſt attention was fixed on an only ſiſter, whoſe youth and modeſty gave additional luſtre to her growing charms. This beauteous budding roſe had not yet been blighted, even by the breath of ſlander; and to rear it with a careful tender hand to its full bloom, was Eliza's conſtant avocation. Succeſs hath crowned her endeavours; and in her charming ſiſter, ſhe hath every comfort of a ſenſible, enlightend, virtuous friend, and almoſt inſeparable companion. They reſide in the ſame houſe in R--L---Square, and live in the moſt ſocial, amicable manner unallayed with any of thoſe bickerings, which from jealouſy on baſer motives, frequently interrupt the good underſtanding that ſhould conſtantly ſubſiſt berween ſuch near relations.

It has been remarked of the ſex, that if they are once guilty of a falſe ſtep, they exert their utmoſt endeavouts to bring every woman upon a level with themſelves, in order, it is imagined, to avoid the reproach

proach of ſcandal: But Eliza is a living example that this diſpoſition is not ſo general as it has been ſuppoſed; for whatever errors ſhe may have been guilty of, all her inſtructions to her lovely ſiſter tend to form her mind to the moſt upright virtue, inſtead of warping it to a vicious path.

So many amiable diſpoſitions may in ſome degree diſpel any trivial ſhades in the portrait of Eliza's character; for we cannot, upon the ſtricteſt ſcrutiny, diſcover it was ever ſtigmatized with indiſcriminate errors. A former connexion, from whence ſhe derived her preſent name, may, perhaps, include all her deviation from the moſt rigid path of female honour, previous to her preſent alliance.

A Story told to the old Warder of the Tower.

WHEN the late prince of Wales was viewing the curioſities of the Tower, in company with ſeveral of the young nobility, an old warder that conducted them through the ſeveral apartments, amongſt a vaſt variety of breaſt-plates that were in the horſe armory, pointed to one, the lower end of which had been carried away by a ſtanſt ſhot of a cannon-ball, and with it, as the warder ſaid, "part of the bowels "of the rim of the man's belly that wore it; not-"withſtanding which, being put under the care of a "ſkilful ſurgeon, the man recovered, and lived ten "years afterwards."——The company ſmiled at the gravity with which the warder repeated his tale; and the prince, with a gracious condeſcenſion, and as much good-nature and pleaſantry as if he had been talking to his equal, ſaid, "I remember, father, to "have read ſomewhere in a book, a ſtory like your's, "of a ſoldier who had his head cleft in two ſo dex-"terouſly by the enemy, that one half of it fell on

"one

" one ſhoulder and the other half of it upon the op-
" poſite ſhoulder; and yet, one of his comrades lay-
" ing his hands carefully under the two ſides, clapping
" them nicely together again, and binding them cloſe
" with his handkerchief, the man did well, drank
" his pot of ale at night, and recollected that ever
" he had been hurt."——This ſeaſonable ſtory affected the old warder ſo much, that he never had courage to tell it again.

A Receipt to cure a Love-Fit.

TYE one end of a rope faſt over a beam,
And make a ſlip nooſe at the other extream;
Then juſt underneath let a cricket be ſet,
On which let the lover moſt manfully get;
Then over his head let the ſnecket be got,
And under one ear be well ſettled the knot:
The cricket kick'd down let him take a fair ſwing,
And leave all the reſt of the work to the ſtring.

A very ſurpriſing Inſtance of the Sagacity of a Fox. From IDIES's *Travels.*

AN extraordinary fox was diſcovered by a peaſant who on ſight of him let looſe his dogs. The fox was within ſight, and the dogs ſoon got up to him but when the ſubtle animal found that it was impoſſible to eſcape the hounds by flight, he ran fawning to meet him, tumbled on his back before them, licked their mouths, and raud backwards and forwards playing with them. The dogs, ſoftened by this fawning treatment, did the fox no manner of hurt, but ſuffered him to eſcape into the wood; ſo that the poor peaſant, having no fire arms, loſt ſight of his prey notwithſtanding his utmoſt vigilance.

Two

Two days afterwards the ſame fox returned to the ſame place, which the peaſant no ſooner ſaw, than he took with him his beſt dog, weich was a white one, and, filled with freſh hope of rich game ran this dog at the fox; but the black dogs flew to his defence, and while he was fawning on them, the white hound was ſo cunning as to fawn at firſt, but being come within reach, he took a good leap at the fox, who had certainly been taken, had he not, with the loſs of ſome of the ſkin from his ſide, ſprung nimbly from the dog, and eſcaped into a thick wood, where it was in vain to look for him.

At length the peaſant coloured his white dog all over black, that the fox, who was ſhy of him, might not know him; which being done, he went in ſearch of the fox with his dyed dog, who was ſo fortunate as to ſmell him out; and the fox, ſeeing the diſguiſed dog, fawned on him without the leaſt fear, taking him for one of the former black hounds. Thus they approached each other, till the dog, watching his opportunity, ſeized the careleſs fox, and then the peaſant was well paid for his trouble, for he ſold the ſkin for a hundred rubles.

A curious bill for a pair of Shoes.

THE following bill, for a pair of ſhoes, was ſent by a Shoemaker to his Attorney, who had ſolicited a matter of right for the Shoemaker, but had done nothing effectually for him.

Timothy Term-fee, Eſq; to *Samuel Snob*, Det.

1770.	£	s.	d.
Nov. 1. Attending you at your chambers, conſulting and adviſing on your intended pair of ſhoes - - -	0	6	8

3. At-

3. Attending you again, when your Honour did not come to any determination what ſort of ſhoes I ſhould make for you -	0	6	8
6. The like attendance - - -	0	6	8
9. Attendance again at your chambers, when found you were gone to the Lord Mayor's ſhew - - - -	0	6	8
12. Attending your Honour, when you determined to wear nothing for the future but beſt black grain, and taking your meaſure accordingly - - -	0	13	4
13. Attending you again, when you informed me, that as there were no proper croſſings in the new pavement, for foot paſſengers, you had determined to have ſtrong wax leather, inſtead of black grain, and taking your inſtructions accordingly	0	13	4
14. Borrowing your Honour's laſt to make them by - - - -	0	3	4
16. Attending you four different times, conſulting and adviſing on the laſt, &c.	0	13	4
20. Cutting out the ſhoes -	0	3	4
To me and my Foreman's attendance for three days, making enquiry for a good craft when we found one with great difficulty, the reſt having gone to the Plantations	1	10	0
To three ſeveral attendances to fit them on, when your Honour was not at home	1	0	0
28. Attending twice this day to try them on, but they did not fit - -	0	13	4
Drawing out this bill and fair copy	0	2	2
	£6	12	0

Mr. Term-fee, this is my bill, and I have had it ſettled and approved by the Maſter of our Company.

I am, your's,

SAMUEL SNOB.

An Old Batchelor's Exclamation.

LORD have mercy upon us!---Were Scandal and Cards to be made capital offences, what would become of nine parts in ten of thoſe who dignify themſelves with the title of the Genteel women in town! Periſh they would moſt certainly, either by the law, or againſt it; for if they were no longer able to kill their time, what could they do but kill themſelves.

A ſtrange Story of a Cat and her Kittens.

THE following extraordinary paragraph is taken from the York Courant, dated April 16, 1771.—A gentleman's ſervant in this city had occaſion to go into the kitchen before the family were up, where he ſaw a cat lying upon the table, which he knew had kittens: his curioſity led him to take her up to ſee how many ſhe had, but to his great ſurprize found ſix young rats (a little larger than mice) ſucking her—He took them away, but ſhe pulled them to her again with her feet, and when he took them quite from her, ſhe leaped in his face; ſo deſirous was ſhe of preſerving the favourite brood. What is more remarkable, the ſame cat is a very good one at deſtroying rats and mice. Her kittens and the dam of the rats were found dead; ſo it is ſuppoſed the old rat had killed the kittens, and the cat had killed the rat, and had taken the young rats to ſuck her. The ſervant threw the rats to the other cats who devoured them immediately.

A diverting

A diverting Anecdote of Lord HOLLAND.

AS the grand Defaulter, Lord Holland, was one day paſſing his kitchen, he overheard a ſquabble between his ſon Charles Fox and the cook; and, on enquiry, found that Maſter Charley wanted to p—ſs upon a pig then roaſting for dinner; the indulgent father ruſhed into the kitchen, and reprimanding the cook for refuſing to let the child gratify his humour in that, which he ſaid was of ſo little moment, as the water would run off again, and conſequently the pig be not the worſe; and he actually ſtood by while Charley gratified his whim; then both left the kitchen, laughing together. The cook, a droll wench, to be even with her maſter for invading her territories, &c. when ſhe ſent the pig to table, where much company was to dine, wrote the following lines on a ſlip of papet, and put it in its mouth, which was taken out by a young gentleman at table, and read aloud to the whole company.

If ſtrong and rank I ſmell and taſte,
It comes from that which did me baſte;
While roaſting I did fume and hiſs,
A Fox's cub on me did p—ſs.

Which piece of wit coſt Popineria her place, an order being immediately iſſued for her diſcharge.

A Love-letter from a Taylor to a Mantua-Maker.

Remnant of my hopes,

MAY I be *ript* from the *borders* of your eſteem, and never to be *button'd* to the *loop* of your kindneſs, but I am ſtrongly *ſeam'd* to the *hem* of your beauty: may I never have a *thimble full* of your favour, but you have ſo *entangled* the *thread* of my underſtand-

derſtanding with that pretty little *outſide* of your's, that I am ſtark mad to be your ✿✿✿✿✿. *Adſbodkins*, I am ſurely your's every *ſtitch* of me. Wherever you go you are my North, and my *needle* follows you; *blunt* not, therefore, the *point* of my endeavours, but let me *baſte* myſelf to your kindneſs, that I may *ſit the tighter* to your affections. I love you beyond *meaſure*, but yet it is ſo hard to *eabbage* one ſweet look from you, that I almoſt deſpair of having enough to finiſh my *ſuit*.

Pray put a favourable conſtruction on this, and for the ſame I ſhall always ſit croſs-legg'd for your ſake, being, my deareſt little *flouncer*, Your's,

PETER BUCKRAM.

The Subſtance of an Information ſworn before a Juſtice of the Peace, in the County of Kilkenny.

Sheweth,

THAT four ladies of quality, whom deponent does not name, repair nightly to a convenient place, to meet four gallants of the firſt rank, whom deponent does not chuſe to name, but ſo far deſcribes, that two are of a dark, two of a ruddy complexion, and believes they are painted; theſe gallants are called by the fictitious names of Hercules, Cupid, Pitt and Garner (*a*). After a plentiful ſervice of coſtly fiſh, they begin to play their tricks on a carpet; ſtrip is the firſt word, and to it they go, at firſt indeed pretty civilly, (at leaſt in expreſſion) as madam, I aſk leave or ſo, which the lady is ſo good as ſeldom to deny, but by a certain rule of precedency, ſhe has in her turn, the choice of her gallant; and ſome have been known to be ſo unreaſonable, that after having had three, they have called for a fourth. It would be ſhameleſs to expreſs the

(*a*) *Clubs, Hearts, Diamonds, Spades.*

the tricks that have been played by this lewd pack, ſometimes on their faces, ſometimes on their backs, now higly pigly, and by and by, you might ſee them all on top of one another, and their diſcourſe is of a piece with their practices.

The deponent heard them talk of their A——es with as much eaſe and as little modeſty, as of their hands. I have a black one, ſays one, and named the thing directly. I have a better than you, ſays another, and named it. Muſt I be neglected becauſe I've a red one, ſays a third? And it is a conſtant practice and rule, that when a lady is called upon, ſhe muſt ſhew all; but what is ſtill more monſtrous, it has been known that after ſix, a lady has aſked a gentleman if he could do any more: and it is common when they are tired of their gallants, they have called for freſh ones. In ſhort, theſe ladies have ſpent not only their pin-money, but their huſbands eſtates, and when they want money, pawn their jewels, &c.

Sworn before me this 4th of May, 1768.

Form of a Scotch Bank Note.

Glaſgow, Jan. 16, 1775.

I Daniel Mc. Callum, for Daniel Mc. Funn, Duncan Buchanan, and company, bankers in Glaſgow, having powers from them, promiſe to pay to James Gardiner, or the bearer on demand, *one penny* Sterling, or in option of the directors, three ballads ſix days after demand, and for aſcertaining the demand and option of the directors, the accomptant and one of the tellers of the bank, are hereby ordered to mark and ſign this note on the back thereof. By order of the court of directors,

DANIEL Mc. CALLUM. DANIEL Mc. FUNN.

A joke paſſed on the Floriſts Society at Bath, by a Lady.

NOT long ſince ſome Floreſts at Bath, having their uſual annual feaſt, and an exhibition of flowers, a certain lady of known taſte in that way, among the reſt, ſent a flower of moſt exquiſite beauty, as a vegetable candidate for whatever ſhare of fame thoſe profound connoiſſeurs, in their great wiſdoms, ſhould affix and determine it; on a very cloſe and critical examination, the whole body pronounced it the fineſt flower (for tinge, ſize, and every other diſtinction requiſite) in all that ſelect diſplay of Floria's family, and immediately ordered her a genteel premium, at once a mark of her merit and their diſcernment. But, O ſweet virgins! florid daughters of ſpring, how ſhall we tell the cataſtrophe? the lady politely aſſured them, that in conſcience ſhe could by no means accept of it; ſhe ſincerely regretted that a trifle from her ſhould reflect ſo little credit to their reputation, and ſorry ſhe was to undeceive them, but the conviction to all but themſelves was, alas! too apparent; art for this once had exceeded nature, her's being only the reſult of ingenuity——*An artificial flower.*

The power of conſcience, exemplified in the Story of BESSUS, *of Pelonia in Greece.*

HOW irreſiſtible is the power of conſcience! It is a viper which twines itſelf round the heart, and cannot be ſhook off. It lays faſt hold of us; it lies down with us, and ſtings us in our ſleep. It riſes with us and preys upon our vitals. Hence, antient moraliſts compared an evil conſcience, to a vulture feeding upon our liver; and the pangs that are felt under

under the one, to the throws of the other; ſuppoſing at the ſame time the vulture's hunger to be inſatiable, and this entrail to be moſt exquiſitely ſenſible of pain, and to grow as faſt as it is devoured. What can be a ſtronger repreſentation of the moſt lingering and moſt acute corporeal pains? Yet ſtrong as it is, it falls greatly ſhort of the anguiſh, of a guilty conſcience; imagination, when at reſt, cannot conceive the horrors, which when troubled, it can excite, or the tortures to which it can give birth. What muſt have been the ſtate of mind of Beſſus, a native of Pelonia in Greece, when he diſcloſed the following well authenticated fact? His neighbours ſeeing him one day extremely earneſt in pulling down ſome birds neſts and paſſionately deſtroying their young, could not help taking notice of it, and upbraiding him with his ill nature and cruelty to poor creatures, that by neſtling ſo near him, ſeemed to court his protection and hoſpitality. He replied, that their voice was to him inſufferable, as they never ceaſed twitting him with the murder of his father. This execrable villainy had lain concealed many years and never been ſuſpected. In all probability it would never have come to light, had not the avenging fury of conſcience drawn, by theſe extraordinary means, a public acknowledgement of it from the parricide's own mouth. Beſſus is not the only perſon that has ſtood ſelf-convicted. Tho' the diſcovery has not been diſtinguiſhed by ſuch a ſtrange circumſtance, many have made a voluntary confeſſion, and ſought for a refuge from the torments of conſcience in death. What a leſſon for all men to keep a conſcience void of offence.

A ſhort Hiſtory of a black Bob Wig.

IT is very immaterial to mankind what part of the globe, or whether bipeds or quadrupeds, or both,

gave birth to the materials of which I am compoſed. But, were it otherwiſe, it is impoſſible I ſhould be able to give a certain account of what preceded my exiſtance. I ſhall therefore content myſelf (and I hope it will ſatisfy others) with beginning my hiſtory at that memorable period, when my maker drove three ſmall nails through my temples, to faſten me to the block on which I had been formed, in order to adjuſt all my parts, and give me the finiſhing gloſs. No ſooner was I thus made capable of guarding human brains, than I was ſold to a noted fox-hunting Eſquire, near Epſom. The care, that had been taken to ſet me off to the beſt advantage, was now ſeldom repeated; for my maſter, in order to preſerve a conſiſtency throughout, paid as little regard to the external embelliſhments of his head, as he did to the internal regulation of it. It was ſufficient for him that I defended that part where ſenſe ought to have reſided, from the wind and rain, while purſuing his favourite employment. I was therefore ſeldom reinſtated in my original ſleek and gloſſy attitude; but, when my frame was diſcompoſed by entangling thickets in the chace, his method of reducing me to due order and decorum was to take me by the foretop, and daſh me violently againſt a poſt. This operation I frequently underwent at the cloſe of the hunt, when my maſter ſat down to his bottle with his brother ſportſmen. He was no philoſopher; he knew nothing about the Newtonian-ſyſtem, or the laws of action and re-action, but found the operation anſwered his end, and, when that was attained, he never racked his brains about the rationale of the means. The violence of the blow inſtantly made ſuch a concuſſion in my pliant frame, as occaſioned all my parts to ſpring up in reſentment into the original attitude in which my maſter had formed them. I was a faithful ſervant to him upwards of twelve months, till one day as he was purſuing

ſuing his favourite diverſion, when liquor had ſomewhat heated his brain, he rode furiouſly through a thicket, and I was left behind, ſuſpended like Abſalom, between heaven and earth, for ſeveral days. The velocity of his ſteed, and the ſituation of his head had carried him ſo far before he ſtopped, and ſo confuſed his retentive faculties, that he knew not in what part of the thicket he had parted from me, and therefore he neglected to make any ſearch after me. At length, however, I was obſerved by a collector of ſupernumerary caſh, who had ſecreted himſelf in the forreſt till the darkneſs of the night ſhould favour his deſigns. He took me down, and, immediately throwing aſide his ſun-burnt grizzle, clapped me on his head, which I fitted to a miracle. The evening coming on, he ſoon proceeded to action, and, in an encounter with a bold farmer, who was returning from market, I was diſlodged from the block, and trampled in the mire, where I lay in a comfortleſs ſituation till next morning. Soon after the light had made me viſible, I was picked up by a ſtage waggoner, who was going to London. This fellow, having no occaſion for me, ſold me at the next ale-houſe he came to for half a crown to the landlord, who ſoon after ſold me to the barber of the village for one ſhilling profit. Here I was freſh oiled, preſſed, combed, and powdered, till I reſumed, in ſome degree, my primeval aſpect. I hung however a conſiderable time on the block before a purchaſer offered. At length a young fellow in diſguiſe came, and purchaſed me at a guinea (my maſter proteſting I had only been worn a week by the perſon for whom he had made me, who he ſaid was ſince dead) and carried me to his maſter. I knew not into whoſe hands I had fallen, but ſoon found I had been purchaſed to carry on the dark purpoſes of deceit, and promote an intrigue of the moſt villainous kind. The perſon, whoſe paſte-

board

board apartments I was now deſigned to cover, was a white-headed figure, ſomething between man and boy, whoſe vacant idiotical countenance characteriſed him more of a fool than he was generally thought to be, till the publication of his elegant letters ſhewed him forth to the world in his proper colours.

From my antiquated form and colour, he thought me very fit for the vile purpoſe of diſguiſing him from the obſervation of mankind, and accordingly always wore me when he proſecuted his favourite deſigns of fornication and adultery. The partner of his guilty paſtime, whoſe name is now well known, and whoſe character is delineated by truth in ſable colours, admired me much, proteſting I was charmingly becoming to her 'ſweet dear little friend.' She coaxed me, and combed me, while on the head of her inamorato; and I was conſidered as a great ornament, on account of my being ſo ſtrong a contraſt to the pale, emaciated lank cheeks which I encircled.

My maſter, altho' (as I ſaid before) no philoſopher, had a ſtrange propenſity for diſcovering the longitude, although he was not by nature or art furniſhed with ſufficient capacity, or implements to ſucceed in the theory or practice. Still, however, he would be frequently attempting new proofs of ſkill. In an unfortunate hour, while my maſter was contemplating, the door of the room burſt open. The noiſe, and the unexpected entrance of ſome rude fellows, who had a ſuſpicion what was upon the carpet, and wanted to be witneſſes of the diſcovery, entirely broke the thread of my maſter's reaſoning, and ſpoiled his calculations. The ſudden revulſion of the annimal ſpirits, and diſlocation of ideas, which took place in both the ſtudents, on their unlo ked for intruſion, threw the one into a ſwoon, and frighted the other ſo much, that forgetting me, he ran bare-headed out of the room,

and

and declared "he would take his bible oath, that he "was not found in the lady's apartment."

I was, however, ſoon after reſtored to him again; but as he had now been known to have had me in poſſeſſion, he conſidered me as uſeleſs to him, and therefore I was diſcarded and thrown aſide by him. Soon after, however, one of his domeſtics ſold me to a barber at St. Alban's for five ſhillings, who has ſince that time made as many guineas, by ſhewing me on a block in his ſhop to the curious. Here I now remain, and as I have been ſeen by moſt of the inhabitants in this, and the adjacent towns, my maſter talks of ſending me to Cumberland, but I am apprehenſive of meeting with but indifferent treatment. I ſhould rather (were it in my power) be conſigned to the uſe of the lady who ſo much admired me. Her capacity is too extenſive, and her diſpoſition too tender to alarm my fears. With her I might paſs the reſidue of my days in eaſe; with her I might probably be admitted to freſh demonſtration in the hours of ſoft and undiſturbed amuſement.

St. Alban's, I am your's at command,
Aug. 14, 1770. A BLACK BOB WIG.

The form and manner of obtaining the FLITCH of BACON *at Dunmow in England: from an original record.*

DUNMOW NUPER, PRIORAT. } AT a court baron of the right worſhipful Sir Thomas May, knight, there holden, on Friday the 20th of June, in the ſixteenth year of the reign of our ſovereign Lord William III. by the grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. and in the year of our Lord 1761, before Thomas Wheeler, gent. ſteward of the ſaid mannor, it is thus inrolled:

Homage.

Homage. Elizabeth Beaumont, ſpinſter.
Henrietta Beaumont, ſpinſter.
Annabella Beaumont, ſpinſter.
Jane Beaumont, ſpinſter.
Mary Wheeler, ſpinſter. } Jur.

Be it remembered that at this court it is found and preſented, by the homage aforeſaid, that William Parſley, of Much Eaſton, in the county of Eſſex, butcher, and Jane his Wife, have been married for the ſpace of three years laſt paſt, and upwards; and it is likewiſe found, preſented, and adjudged by the homage aforeſaid, that the ſaid William Parſley, and Jane his wife, by means of their quiet and peaceable tender, and loving cohabitation for the ſpace of time aforeſaid, (as appears to the ſaid homage) are fit and qualified perſons to be admitted by the court to receive the antient and accuſtomed oath, whereby to intitle themſelves to have the bacon of Dunmow delivered unto them, according to the cuſtom of the mannor. Whereupon at this court, in full and open court, came the ſaid William Parſley, and Jane his wife, in their proper perſons, and humbly prayed they might be admitted to take the oath; whereupon the ſaid ſteward, with the jury, ſuitors, and other officers of the court, proceeded with the uſual ſolemnity to the antient and accuſtomed place for adminiſtration of the oath, and receiving the bacon aforeſaid, that is to ſay, two great ſtones lying near the church door within the ſaid mannor, where the ſaid William Parſley, and Jane his wife, kneeling down on the ſaid two ſtones, the ſaid ſteward did adminiſter unto them the oath in theſe words, or to this effect following, viz.

You do ſwear by cuſtom of confeſſion,
That you ne'er made nuptial tranſgreſſion;
Nor ſince you were married man and wife,
By houſhold brawls, or contentious ſtrife;

Or

Or otherwiſe in bed or at board,
Offended each other in deed or in word;
Or in a twelvemonth's time and a day,
Repented not in thought any way;
Or ſince the church clerk ſaid amen,
Wiſhed yourſelves unmarried again;
But continue true, and in deſire,
As when you joined hands in holy choir.

And immediately thereupon the ſaid William Parſley, and Jane his wife, claiming the ſaid bacon, the court pronounced the ſentence for the ſame in theſe words, or to the effect following, viz.

Since to theſe conditions, without any fear,
Of your own accord you do freely ſwear,
A whole gammon of bacon you do receive,
And bear it away with love and good leave;
For this is the cuſtom of Dunmow, well known,
Tho' the pleaſure be ours, the bacon's your own.

And accordingly a gammon of bacon was delivered to the ſaid William Parſley, and Jane his wife, with the uſual ſolemnity. Examined, per

THOMAS WHEELER, ſteward.

The following is the original paper, which gave riſe to the humorous effect produced by reading news papers acroſs the columns.

To the PRINTER.

Fortuito concurſu hoc fieri, mirum eſt!

CICERO de Fin.

MY favourite reading, ever ſince I *could* read, has been in news-papers, and to them I am indebted for all my knowledge, and the greateſt part of my amuſement. This declaration may, at firſt ſight, appear ſomewhat extraordinary; but I dare ſay it would

would ceaſe to be ſo, if moſt of the fine gentlemen about town would be as candid and ingenuous as myſelf; they too would freely confeſs, that the figure they make in company is entirely owing to the occurrences of the day, with occaſional eſſays, and litterary articles in the public papers.

I do not intend, Mr. Printer, to pay you any extravagant compliments at the expence of your brethren; though I very much approve the general plan and conduct of your paper, and am often pleaſed to ſee in it ſome ſmart things ſhine through the dark clouds of politics, in which all our news-papers have long been enveloped.

For ſeveral months paſt I have reſided in the country, with a very agreeable family, about forty miles from London. The *environs* were moſt delightful, and we had plenty of ſhooting, fiſhing, walking, and riding. But as the weather was frequently ſuch as obliged us to keep within doors, we then endeavoured to amuſe ourſelves with cards and news-papers. Cards, to thoſe who love play, are a vaſt fund of amuſement. Every time the ſpots and pictures are ſhuffled, they afford freſh entertainment; but this is by no means the caſe with regard to news-papers; for when you have once peruſed the four pages of unconnected occurrences, and miſcellaneous adverti ſements, the abrupt tranſitions from article to article, without the ſmalleſt connection between one paragraph and another, overload and confuſe the memory ſo much, that, when you are queſtioned, you can never give a tolerable account of what you have been reading. Hence it is, that one ſo often ſees people peruſe two or three news-papers, and throw them down, one after another, with the conſtant complaint of, *Not a ſyllable of news——Nothing at all in the papers*, to the great diſcredit of thoſe daily vehicles of intelligence, and the great detriment of you, Mr.

Printer,

Printer, and the reſt of your brethren. Now this is extremely unjuſt; for the fault (as already hinted) is not in the news-papers, but in the readers having taken too copious a doſe, conſiſting of an *Olio*, or mixt compoſition of politicks, religion, picking of pockets, puffs, caſualties, deaths, marriages, bankruptcies, preferments, reſignations, executions, lottery tickets, India bonds, Scotch pebbles, Canadia bills, French chicken gloves, auctioneers, and quack doctors. What a curious jumble is this, and what wonder is it, that four folio pages of it, conſiſting of three columns each, ſhould be too potent a doſe for the memory of moſt readers? But in purſuing this matter, I had almoſt loſt ſight of the point I had originally in view, when I began this letter; which was to ſhew, that news-papers, as well as cards, were capable of affording a variety of entertainment. At preſent I ſhall only mention one improvement in reading the papers, which we practiſed in the country with great ſucceſs; and that was, after we had read the St. James's Chronicle in the old trite vulgar way, *i. e.* each column by itſelf *downwards*, we next read two columns together *onwards*; and by this new method found much more entertainment than in the common way of reading, with a great variety of articles curiouſly blended, or ſtrikingly contraſted. In ſhort, blind chance brought about the ſtrangeſt connections, and frequently coupled perſons and things the moſt heterogeneous; things ſo oppoſite in their nature and qualities, that no man alive would ever have thought of joining them together.

——*Placidis coeunt immitia——*
Serpentes avibus geminantur, tigribus agni.

As I always carry a pencil in my pocket, I uſed to ſet down thoſe that were moſt remarkable, and now ſend you a collection of them, to be inſerted in your paper.

paper. I hope my very good friend and patron, the public, will receive this attempt with his uſual candour and indulgence, as it tends to promote the practice of reading, and to enlarge the circle of innocent amuſement.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.

PAPYRIUS CURSOR.

Yeſterday Dr. Jones preached at St. James's, | and performed it with eaſe in leſs than ſixteen minutes.

The ſword of ſtate was carried--- | before Sir John Fielding, and committed to Newgate.

There was a numerous and brilliant court; | a down look, and a caſt with one eye.

Laſt night the Princeſs Royal was baptiſed, | Mary alias Moll Hacket, alias Black Moll.

This morning the right hon. the Speaker— | was convicted of keeping a diſorderly houſe.

This day his Majeſty will go in ſtate to | fifteen notorious common proſtitutes.

Their R. H. the Dukes of York and Glouceſter | were bound over to their good behaviour.

At noon her royal highneſs the Princeſs Dowager was | married to Mr. Jenkins, an eminent taylor.

Lord Chatham took his ſeat in the houſe of | and was ſeverely handled by the populace.

Several changes are talked of at court | conſiſting of 9040 triple Bob Majors.

Friday a poor blind man fell into a ſaw-pit | to which he was conducted by Sir Clement Cotterel.

'Tis ſaid that a great oppoſition is intended | ---Pray ſtop it and the party——

A certain commoner will be created a peer. | ☞ No greater reward will be offered.

John Wilkes, Eſq; ſet out for France, | being charged with returning from tranſportation.

Laſt

Laſt night a moſt terrible fire broke out | and the evening concluded with the utmoſt feſtivity.

At a very full meeting of common council | the greateſt ſhew of horned cattle this ſeaſon.

An indictment of murder is preferred againſt | the worſhipful company of apothecaries.

Removed to Marybone, for the benefit of the air | the city and liberties of Weſtminſter.

Lately came out of the country, | The Middleſex hoſpital, enlarged with a new wing.

Set out on his travels to foreign parts, | Beware of counterfeits, for ſuch are abroad.

The Free-maſons will hold their annual grand lodge | *N. B.* The utmoſt ſecreſy may be depended on.

Yeſterday the new Lord Mayor was ſworn in, | and afterwards toſs'd and gor'd ſeveral perſons.

On Tueſday laſt an addreſs was preſented | it happily miſſed fire, and the villain made off.

When the honour of knighthood was conferred on him, to the great joy of that noble family.

A fine turtle, weighing upwards of eighty pounds, | was carried before the ſitting alderman.

Sunday a poor woman was ſuddenly taken in labour | the contents whereof have not yet tranſpired.

Whereas the ſaid barn was ſet on fire by | an incendiary letter dropped early in the morning.

The King of Pruſſia has wrote to our court | "if you dant pote fiſe powns in a ſartin plaſe."

A number of 5s. 3d. pieces are now coining, | to be ſold to the poor at 5s. a buſhel.

This morning will be married the Lord Viſcount | and afterwards hung in chains purſuant to his ſentence.

Eſcaped from the New Gaol Terence M'Dermot, | if he will return he will be kindly received.

He was examined before the ſitting alderman | and no queſtions aſked.

To the public: a caution from the police. | There is more reaſon for this caution than good.

The executors of the late Dr. Ward continue | At the Horſe Infirmary near Knightſbridge.

By order of the commiſſioners for paving | An infallible remedy for the ſtone and gravel.

By the King's patent, Britiſh herb tobacco, | cureth ſmoky chimnies. No cure no pay.

To be diſpoſed of greatly under prime coſt, | Nothing under full price will be taken.

The creditors of Mary Jones are deſired to meet | I will pay no debts of her contracting.

Any lady deſirous of lying-in privately | will be delivered at any part of the town.

Colds caught at this ſeaſon are | The companion to the play-houſe.

Wants a place of all work, | A ſtrong-bodied mare, miſtreſs of 16 ſtone.

Wanted an houſekeeper to an elderly gentleman, | warranted ſound, wind and limb, free from blemiſh.

Wanted to take care of an elderly gentlewoman, | An active young man juſt come out of the country.

To be let, and entered on immediately, | a young woman that will put her hand to any thing.

Horſes to let, or ſtand at livery, | Now lying at Horſlydown.

Ready to ſail for the Weſt-Indies, | The Canterbury flying machine in one day.

To be ſold to the beſt bidder, | My ſeat in parliament being vacated.

I have long laboured under a complaint | For ready money only.

The Turk's-head bagnio is now opened, | Where may be had, price 5s. in ſheets.

To the curious in perukes, | The college of Phyſicians will hold their anniverſary.

Notice is hereby given, | and no notice taken.

Anecdote

Anecdote of his Majeſty and a Chimney-ſweeper.

IT is a common received opinion with the vulgar, that there is ſomething in the perſon of Majeſty that wants not the inſignia to diſtinguiſh it. The fallacy of ſuch a notion will be proved by the following ſtory, which is abſolutely fact:—As the King and the Prince of Wales, undreſſed and unattended, were walking in Richmond gardens, next the river, they ſaw at ſome diſtance a ſwan ſtruggling in the water, as if entangled in ſome weeds; a chimney ſweeper coming by, the King deſired him to go and ſee what was the matter with the ſwan. "Aye, ſir, that I will," ſays he, (throwing his bruſh and ſoot-bag upon the ground) "but you'll be ſo good as to let little "maſter give an eye to my things."

Remarkable nice ſenſe of honour in a Bravo.

AT Naples there was a very particular man of honour, whoſe name was Bandoli. He was the greateſt bravo of his time; and it was ſaid that he had, with his own hand, diſpatched upwards of eighty perſons by aſſaſſination; for that was the profeſſion he got his bread by. He made uſe occaſionally of a piſtol, ſword, poniard, and ſtilletto, but he ſcorned to poiſon any one he was hired to make away with, alledging that there was ſomething unmanly in it. That it was not an action any perſon of honour would be guilty of; and that it was as much beneath a bravo to turn poiſoner, as it would be for a regular-bred phyſician to commence quack-doctor.

Two Neapolitan gentlemen quarrelled one evening at an aſſembly, and according to the honourable cuſtom of the times, each ſent ſeparately for Bandoli,

and gave him 50 piſtoles a piece, to make quick work with the other. The laſt man he diſpatched as ſoon as he had paid him, and then returned to the firſt perſon, wh', on hearing Bandoli relate how he had ſlaughtered his adverſary, recommended the bravo greatly for his dexterity in his buſineſs. Yes, ſir, replied Bandoli, every one who employs me ſhall always find me punctual; for I am a man of honour, ſir, and to convince you I would not forfeit it, the gentleman whom I have juſt ſent home, by your order, gave me 50 piſtoles to make an end of you; now, although he is dead, and cannot call me to an account for not doing what he employed me in, yet, ſir, I am ſo much a man of honour, that I ſcorn to be guilty of a breach of promiſe to any gentleman: and immediately thruſt his ſtilletto deep into the other's breaſt.

Tyranny puniſhed, in a ſingular manner, exemplified in the ſtory of the ARCHBISHOP *of* TOLEDO *and a* SHOE-MAKER.

NO good, or wiſe Prince, will ſuffer men in power to uſurp an unjuſt authority, over thoſe placed in an inferior ſtation: they are ſenſible, that a Nobleman diveſted of his ſtate, becomes upon a level with the meaneſt cobler, unleſs he claims a ſuperiority by virtue, and goodneſs of mind; by which qualities, a man's intrinſic value can only be known. That ſubordination in individuals, is a requiſite to the harmony, and tranquility of the whole, is obvious to the meaneſt capacity: but then there is a reciprocal duty, which obliges every degree and ſtation, to contribute, as much as in them lies, to the mutual happineſs of each other; and if the great have a right to exact duty, and ſubmiſſion from their inferiors; thoſe alſo have a mutual right to juſtice, and protection from their ſuperiors.

The

The Archbiſhop of Toledo, was a prelate of ſuch high account in Spain, of which he is primitive, that he is looked upon in a degree little inferior to the Pope himſelf; f r the revenues of his dioceſe, which is the richeſt in Chriſtendom, are computed to amount to three hundred and fifty thouſand crowns *per ann.*

In the reign of Don Pedro, ſurnamed the Cruel, for his rigid adherence to juſtice; a prieſt was preferred to that archbiſhoprick. who had no one qualification to recommend him, but the ſtrength of his purſe; and ſome minions at the court of Rome, who had taſted of his bounty; for though he was ſordidly avaricious upon every other occaſion, yet he could be laviſh enough of his money either to promote his own ambitious views, or to revenge himſelf on thoſe who had offended him.

Some buſy body having one day informed him, that a certain ſhoemaker, who lived in the city, and was eſteemed a droll ſort of a fellow, had made too free with his character, and by the keeneſs and ſeverity of his ſatyr, had rendered him the ſubject of public deriſion; the archbiſhop, who poſſeſſed no more of the prieſt than the veſtment, kindled with reſentment; and far from imitating the precepts of his divine maſter, which enjoin all Chriſtians, but more eſpecially thoſe, who in a particular manner dedicated themſelves to his ſervice, to forgive injuries; he breathed nothing but vengeance againſt the poor ſhoemaker; and having found two bravoes fit for his purpoſe, agreed with them for a ſum of money, to diſpatch him.—— They accordingly way-laid him one evening; and ſhot him through the head, within a few yards of his own door. The report of the piſtol, alarmed the ſon of the deceaſed, who being a reſolute young fellow, raiſed ſo briſk a hue and cry, that the aſſaſſins were taken, and being put to the torture, confeſſed the fact;

and accuſed the Archbiſhop upon oath, as their inſtigator to the bloody deed.

Laws, ſays a judicious writer, are like cobwebs; in which ſmall flies are caught, while the large ones break through, and eſcape with impunity. The aſſaſſins were condemned, and executed. The Archbiſhop pleading priviledge, and haughtily inſiſting that he held of no temporal power, was cited before the eccleſiaſtical tribunal; and the judges, in regard to the dignity of his perſonage, contented themſelves with ſuſpending him from ſaying maſs for a twelvemonth, as a puniſhment for his crime.

The ſon of the deceaſed, little ſatisfied with ſo ſlight a puniſhment, reſolved to wait the arrival of his Sovereign, who was expected ſhortly at Toledo, to aſſiſt at the ſolemn proceſſion on Corpus Chriſti day, as is cuſtomary in Roman Catholic countries, which was then approaching. The moment the King arrived, he caſt himſelf at his feet, and in a moſt moving, and pathetic ſpeech, demanded vengeance for the death of his father, whom the Archbiſhop had ſo inhumanly cauſed to be ſlain. The King aſked him, whether he had carried his complaint before the eccleſiaſtical, to whom the cognizance of the affair properly belonged? "Yes," Sir, replied the youth, "but what juſtice could a poor ſhoemaker expect, againſt one of the Archbiſhop's rank and fortune? 'tis true he has been ſuſpended from ſaying maſs for a twelvemonth; but what puniſhment is that to him, who is well able to ſubſiſt without it?" "is what you have related ſtrictly true," ſaid the King? "Yes, Sir," replied he, "I will anſwer it with my life." "Do you think you ſhould have reſolution enough to kill him," ſaid the King? "If your Majeſty commands me," replied the youth. "Do ſo then;" continued the King, "and fear not the conſequence."

The

The ſhoemaker returned home elate with joy, and providing himſelf with a poignard, reſolved to wreak a bloody vengeance on the Archbiſhop, on the morrow, which was the day of the proceſſion, even in the Royal preſence.

The next morning the Archbiſhop appeared at the head of the proceſſion, cloathed in his pontifical robes The youth followed him cloſe, till he came before the windows, from whence the King, and the flower of the Nobility viewed the proceſſion as it paſſed; then took his aim ſo juſt, that he ſtruck him through the heart wtth his poignard, and he fell dead on the ſpot. The ſpectators were ſeized with ſuch aſtoniſhment, at ſo horrid a ſpectacle, that were he not conſcious of having acted by the King's orders, he might eaſily have made his eſcape: but he voluntarily ſurrendered himſelf to the King's guards, who would have dragged him inſtantly to priſon, had not the King who beheld all that paſſed from his balcony, ordered him to be brought into his preſence.——The ſpectators knowing with what an impartial ſeverity the King adminiſtered juſtice, which gave him, as we before obſerved, the ſurname of Cruel, were in expectation of the moſt rigorous puniſhment, for ſo execrable a crime. "Speak, villain," ſaid the King, when he was brought before him, "ſay what dæmon inſtigated you, to perpetrate ſo horrid a crime in the preſence of God, and of your ſovereign; and on ſo holy a day as this." The ſhoemaker, conſcious of having acted by the King's orders, anſwered boldly; "Gracious Sovereign, he murdered my father; and though I ſued for juſtice, I could not obtain it." But ſome of the archbiſhop's relations, who happened to be preſent, maintained that his aſſertions were falſe; for that juſtice had been done him. "What juſtice could I have had," ſaid the youth, "while the murderer of my father was permitted to live?" The King

then demanded, what ſatisfaction had been made him; and being informed, that the archbiſhop had been ſuſpended from ſaying maſs for a twelvemonth; which was a very great puniſhment to one of his rank; he turned to the ſhoemaker: "Friend," ſaid he, "what employment do you follow?" "I am a ſhoemaker, an't pleaſe your Majeſty." "Begone then," ſaid the King, "and as a puniſhment for your crime, I condemn you to live a whole twelvemonth without making ſhoes;" and then that he might have means to ſubſiſt, he aſſigned him a good penſion for life, out of the eſtates of the deceaſed archbiſhop.

Thus the mouarch, by his impartiality, gained the applauſe of all thoſe of the nobility who were truly good and virtuous; and put a check to the inſolence of others, who would have imitated the archbiſhop on a ſimilar occaſion.

Account of ſome Men who lived to an extraordinary age.

ATTILA, king of the Huns, who lived in the fifth century, lived to 124, and then died of his exceſs, on the firſt night of his ſecond nuptial, with one of the moſt beautiful princeſſes of the age.

Piaſtus, king of Poland, who, from the rank of a peaſant, was raiſed to that of a prince, A. D. 824, lived to be 120, and governed his ſubjects ſo prudently, that he gained immortal glory amongſt his countrymen.

Hippocrates, the beſt of phyſicians, lived to 104. But Aſclepiades, a Perſian doctor, reached 150. Galen lived, in undiſturbed health, to 104. Sophocles, the tragic poet, to 130. Democritus, the philoſopher, lived alſo to 104. And Euphrator, taught his ſcholars at upwards of 100. Finally, Epimenides, of Creet, according to the teſtimony of Theopompus, lived upwards of 157.

Pliny,

Pliny, the great naturaliſt, aſſures us, that in the city of Parma, there were two of 130 years, three of 120 years; and that in many cities of Italy men lived much older; at Arminium eſpecially, one Marcus Apponius, who was 150.

In our own part of the world, Laurence Hutland, in the Orknies, lived to 170.

James Sands, towards the latter end of the laſt century, died at 140, and his ſpouſe at 120.—In Sweden it is common to meet people of above an hundred; and Rudbekius affirms, from the bills of mortality ſigned by his brother, who was a biſhop, that in the ſmall extent of 12 pariſhes, there died in the ſpace of 37 years, 232 men between 100 and 140 years of age:——Yet, what are theſe to a native of Bengal, who (according to Ferdinand Lopez de Caſtegueda, hiſtoriographer royal) was near 340, when he was preſented to the vice-roy of the Indies?—And as the ſtory is no leſs curious than pleaſant, I beg leave to add a few particulars concerning this celebrated long liver, as confirmed by the above-mentioned author. He tells us, "that the ſaid native remembered that he had ſeen the city wherein he dwelt, and which was one of the moſt populous in the Indies, a very inconſiderable place.----That he had changed his hair, and recovered his teeth four times; when the vice-roy ſaw him, his head and beard were black, but his hair thin: That in the courſe of his life he had 70 wives, ſome of which died; the reſt he put away.—The king of Portugal cauſed a ſtrict ſearch to be made into this matter, and an annual account of the ſtate of this man's health to be brought him by the return of the fleet from India.—This long liver was a native of Bengal, and died at the age of 370.

The relation is very curious, and I have produced my authority for it. The reader may put what faith in it he pleaſes. I ſhall finally ſpeak of the three famous

mous Engliſh long livers, the teſtimonies of which may be received as of undoubted veracity.

And firſt, of old Parre.——This perſon was born at Winnington, in the county of Salop, A. D. 1483; he paſſed his youth in very hard labour; and, what is no leſs laudable, in ſobriety and chaſtity.——At 88 he married his firſt wife Jane, by whom he had two children, neither of which were long lived; the firſt of which died at the age of a month; the other lived but a few years.----At 102 he fell in love with Catharine Milton, whom he got with child, and did penance in the church for it.——Some months before his death the earl of Arundel brought him to King Charles I. at London; but, through change of air, and high living, he died ſoon after, on the 15th of Nov. 1635, aged upwards of 150, ſome ſay 152, and was buried in Weſtminſter-abbey.——He ſlept away moſt of his time, and was over-grown with hair, according to that diſtich of the old poet,

From head to heel, his body had all over,
A quick-ſet, thick-ſet, nat'ral hairy cover.

Henry Jenkins, of Yorkſhire, was 169 when he died.——Thomas Damine, of Leighton, near Minſhul, in the palatine of Cheſter, was 154 years of age when he died, and was buried at Minſhul aforeſaid, on the 20th of February, 1648, as it appears by his grave-ſtone, cut in words at length, not figures; and to prevent diſputes, as the event is ſo remarkable, it is now to be ſeen in the church regiſter, ſigned by the rev. Mr. Tho. Holdford, vicar, and by Thomas Kennerly and John Warburton, church-wardens, who were then living. I thought proper to mention this relation, as it never was taken notice of by any chronologers; few know it, but it ought to be handed down to poſterity.

An Account of the Faſting Woman of Roſsſhire in Scotland. By THOMAS PENNANT.

KATHERINE M'LEOD, daughter to Donald M'Leod, farmer in Croig, in the pariſh of Kincardine, Roſsſhire, an unmarried woman, aged about 35 years, ſixteen years ago contracted a fever, after which ſhe became blind. Her father carried her to ſeveral phyſicians and ſurgeons to cure her blindneſs: their preſcriptions proved of no effect. He carried her alſo to a lady ſkilled in phyſic, in the neighbourhood, who, doubtful whether her blindneſs was occaſioned by the weakneſs of her eye-lids, or a defect in her eyes, found by the uſe of ſome medicines, that the blindneſs was occaſioned by a weakneſs in her eye-lids, which being ſtrengthened, ſhe recovered her ſight in ſome meaſure, and diſcharged as uſual every kind of work about her father's farm; but tyed a garter tight round her forehead to keep up her eye-lids. In this condition ſhe continued for four or five years, enjoying a good ſtate of health, and working as uſual. She contracted another lingering fever, of which ſhe never recovered perfectly.

Some time after her fever her jaws fell, her eye-lids cloſed, and ſhe loſt her appetite. Her parents declare that for the ſpace of a year and three quarters they could not ſay that any meat or liquid went down her throat. Being interrogated on this point, they owned they very frequently put ſomething into her mouth. But they concluded that nothing went down her throat, becauſe ſhe had no evacuation; and when they forced open her jaws at one time, and kept them open for ſome time, by putting in a ſtick between her teeth, and pulling forward her tongue, and forced ſomething down her throat, ſhe coughed and ſtrained, as if in danger to be choaked. One thing during the

time

time ſhe eat and drank nothing is remarkable, that her jaws were unlocked, and ſhe recovered her ſpeech, and ſhe retained it for ſeveral days, without any apparent cauſe for the ſame; ſhe was quite ſenſible, repeated ſeveral queſtions of the ſhorter catechiſm; told them that it was to no purpoſe to put any thing into her mouth, for that nothing went down her throat; as alſo that ſometimes ſhe underſtood them when they ſpoke to her. By degrees her jaws thereafter fell, and ſhe loſt her ſpeech.

Some time before I ſaw her, ſhe received ſome ſuſtenance, whey, water-guel, &c. but threw it up, at leaſt for the moſt part, immediately. When they put the ſtick between her teeth, mentioned above, two or three of her teeth were broken. It was at this breach they put any thing into her mouth. I cauſed them to bring her out of bed, and give her ſomething to drink: they gave her whey. Her neck was contracted, her chin fixed on her breaſt, nor could by any force be pulled back. She put her chin and mouth into the diſh with the whey, and I perceived ſhe ſucked it at the afore-mentioned breach, as a child would ſuck the breaſt, and immediately threw it up again, as her parents told me ſhe uſed to do; and ſhe endeavoured with her hand to dry her mouth and chin. Her forehead was contracted and wrinkled; her cheeks full, red, and blooming. Her parents told me, that ſhe ſlept a great deal, and ſoundly, perſpired ſometimes, and now and then emitted pretty large quantities of blood at her mouth.

For about two years paſt they have been wont to carry her to the door once every day, and ſhe would ſhew ſigns of uneaſineſs when they neglected it at the uſual time. Laſt ſummer after giving her to drink of the well of Strathconnen, ſhe crawled to the door on her hands and feet without any help. She is at preſent in a very languid way, and ſtill throws up what ſhe drinks.

A Collection of PRUDENTIAL MAXIMS, *ingeniously ſtrung together.*

I Stopped my horſe lately where a great number of people were collected at an auction of merchants goods. The hour of the ſale not being come, they were converſing on the badneſs of the times, and one of the company called to a plain clean old man, with white locks, Pray, father Abraham, what think you of the times? Won't theſe heavy taxes quite ruin the country? How ſhall we be able to pay them? What would you adviſe us to?—Father Abraham ſtood up, and replied, If you'd have my advice, I'll give it you in ſhort, for a word to the wiſe is enough, and many words won't fill a buſhel. They joined in deſiring him to ſpeak his mind, and gathering round him he proceeded as follows:

Friends, ſays he, and neighbours, the times indeed are very heavy, and if thoſe laid on by the government were the only ones we had to pay, we might more eaſily diſcharge them; but we have many others, and much more griveous to ſome of us. We are taxed twice as much by our idleneſs, three times as much by our pride, and four times as much by our folly: and from thoſe taxes the Commiſſioners cannot eaſe or deliver us by allowing an abatement. However, let us hearken to good advice, and ſomething may be done for us; God helps them that help themſelves.

It would be thought a hard government that ſhould tax its own people one tenth part of their time, to be employed in its ſervice. But idleneſs taxes many of us much more, if we reckon all that is ſpent in abſolute ſloth, or doing of nothing, with that which is ſpent in idle employments, or amuſements that amount to nothing. Sloth, by bringing on diſeaſes, abſolute-

ly

ly ſhortens life. Induſtry, like the uſed key, is always bright. But doſt thou love life, then do not ſquander time, for that's the ſtuff life is made of.——How much more than is neceſſary do we ſpend in ſleep! forgetting that the ſleeping fox catches no poultry, and that there will be ſleeping enough in the grave. If time be of all things the moſt precious, waſting time muſt be the greateſt prodigality; ſince, loſt time is never found again; and what we call time enough, always proves little enough: let us then up and be doing, and doing to the purpoſe; ſo by diligence ſhall we do more with leſs perplexity. Sloth makes all things difficult, but induſtry all eaſy. He that riſeth late, muſt trot all day, and ſhall ſcarce overtake his buſineſs at night: while lazineſs travels ſo ſlowly, that poverty ſoon overtakes him. Drive thy buſineſs, let not that drive thee; and early to bed, and early to riſe, makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wiſe.

So what ſignifies wiſhing and hoping for better times? We may make theſe times better if we beſtir ourſelves. Induſtry need not wiſh; and he that lives upon hope will die faſting. There are no gains, without pains; then help hands for I have no lands, or if I have they are ſmartly taxed. He that hath a trade hath an eſtate; and he that hath a calling hath an office of profit and honour; but then the trade muſt be worked at, and the calling well followed, or neither the eſtate nor the office, will enable us to pay our taxes.——If we are induſtrious, we ſhall never ſtarve; for, at the working man's houſe hunger looks in, but dare not enter. Nor will the bailiff or the conſtable enter, for induſtry pays debts, while deſpair encreaſeth them.——What though you have found no treaſure nor has any rich relation left you a legacy, diligence is the mother of good luck, and God gives all things to induſtry. Then plow deep, while ſluggards ſleep,

and

and you ſhall have corn to ſell and to keep. Work while it is called to-day, for you know not how much you may be hindered to-morrow; one to-day is worth two to-morrow; have you ſomewhat to do to-morrow, do it to-day. If you were a ſervant, would you not be aſhamed that a good maſter ſhould catch you idle? Are you then your own maſter, be aſhamed to catch yourſelf idle. When there is ſo much to be done for yourſelf, your family, your country, and your gracious king, be up by peep of Day; let not the ſun look down and ſay, inglorious there he lies. Handle your tools without mittens; remember, that a cat in gloves catches no mice. It is true there is much to be done, and perhaps you are weak-handed, but ſtick to it ſteadily, and you will ſee great effects, for conſtant dropping wears away ſtones, and by diligence and patience the mouſe eat in two the cable; and little ſtrokes fell great oaks.

Methinks I hear ſome of you ſay, muſt a man afford himſelf no leiſure?---I will tell you my friend, employ thy time well if thou meaneſt to gain leiſure? and ſince thou art not ſure of a minute, throw not away an hour. Leiſure is time for doing ſomething uſeful; this leiſure the diligent man will obtain, but the lazy man never; ſo that a life of leiſure, and a life of lazineſs are two things. Do you imagine that ſloth will afford more comfort than labour? No; troubles ſpring from idleneſs, and grievous toil from needleſs eaſe. Many without labour would live by their wits only, but they break for want of ſtock: whereas induſtry gives comfort, and plenty, and reſpect. Fly pleaſures and they will follow you. The diligent ſpinner has a large ſhift; and now I have a ſheep and a cow, every body bids me good-morrow.

But with our induſtry we muſt likewiſe be ſteady, ſettled, and careful, and overſee our own affairs with our own eyes, and not truſt too much to others; for

I never

I never ſaw an oft removed tree,
Nor yet an oft removed family,
That throve ſo well as thoſe that ſettled be.

Three removes is as bad as a fire; keep thy ſhop, and thy ſhop will keep thee; if you would have your buſineſs done, go; if not, ſend.

He that by the plough would thrive,
Himſelf muſt either hold or drive.

The eye of a maſter will do more work than both his hands; want of care does us more damage than want of knowledge; not to overſee workmen is to leave them your purſe open. Truſting too much to others care is the ruin of many; for, in the affairs of this world, men are ſaved, not by faith, but by the want of it; but a man's own care is profitable; for learning is to the ſtudious, and riches to the careful, as well as power to the bold, and Heaven to the virtuous. If you would have a faithful ſervant, and one that you like, ſerve yourſelf. A little neglect may breed great miſchief; for want of a ſhoe the horſe was loſt; and for want of a horſe the rider was loſt; being overtaken and ſlain by the enemy; all for want of care about a horſe-ſhoe nail.

So much for induſtry, my friends, and attention to one's own buſineſs; but to theſe we muſt add frugality, if we would make our induſtry more certainly ſucceſsful. A man may, if he knows not how to ſave as he gets, keep his noſe all his life to the grindſtone, and die not worth a groat at laſt. A fat kitchen makes a lean will, and

Many eſtates are ſpent in the getting,
Since women, for tea, forſook ſpinning and knitting,
And men, for punch, forſook hewing and ſplitting.

If

If you would be wealthy, think of ſaving, as well as of getting. The Indies have not made Spain rich, becauſe her out-goes are greater than her in-comes.

Away, then, with your expenſive follies, and you will not then have ſo much cauſe to complain of hard times, heavy taxes, and chargeable families; for,

Women and wine, game and deceit,
Make the wealth ſmall, and the want great.

What maintains one vice, would bring up two children. You may think, perhaps, that a little tea, or a little punch now and then, diet a little more coſtly, cloaths a little finer, and a little entertainment now and then, can be no great matter; but beware of little expences; a ſmall leak will ſink a great ſhip; who dainties love, ſhall beggars prove; fools make feaſts, and wiſe men eat them.

Here you are all got together at this ſale of fineries and nick-nacks. You call them goods, but if you do not take care, they will prove evils to ſome of you. You expect they will be ſold cheap, and perhaps they may for leſs than they coſt; but if you have no occaſion for them, they muſt be dear to you. Buy what thou haſt no need of, and ere long thou ſhalt ſell thy neceſſaries. At a great pennyworth pauſe a while. Meaning that perhaps the cheapneſs is apparent only, and not real; or the bargain, by ſtraitening thee in thy buſineſs, may do thee more harm than good. Many have been ruined by buying good pennyworths. It is fooliſh to lay out money in a purchaſe of repentance; and yet this folly is practiſed every day at auctions. Wiſe men learn by others harms, fools ſcarcely by their own; but *Felix quem faciunt aliena pericula*. Many a one, for the ſake of finery on the back, have gone with a hungry belly, and half ſtarved their families; ſilks and ſattins, ſcarlet and velvets, put out the kitchen fire. Theſe are not the neceſſa-

ties of life; they can ſcarcely be called the conveniencies, and yet, only becauſe they look pretty, how many want to have them? The artificial wants of mankind thus become more numerous than the natural; for one poor perſon there are an hundred indigent. By theſe, and other extravagancies, the genteel are reduced to poverty, and forced to borrow of thoſe whom they formerly deſpiſed, but who, through induſtry and frugality, have maintained their ſtanding; in which caſe it appears plainly, that a ploughman on his legs is higher than a gentleman on his knees. Perhaps they have had a ſmall eſtate left them, which they knew not the getting of, they think it is day, and will never be night; that a little to be ſpent out of ſo much is not worth minding: a child and fool, imagine twenty ſhillings and twenty years can never be ſpent; only taking out of the meal tub, and never putting in, ſoon comes to the bottom; when the well is dry, they know the worth of the water. But this they might have known before, if they had taken advice. If you know the value of money, go and try to borrow ſome; for he that goes a borrowing goes a ſorrowing; and, indeed, ſo does he that lends to ſuch people, when he goes to get it again,

Fond pride of dreſs is ſure a very curſe;
E're fancy you conſult, conſult your purſe.

Pride is as loud a beggar as want, and a great deal more ſaucy. When you have bought one fine thing, you muſt buy ten more, that your appearance may be all of one piece; it is eaſier to ſuppreſs the firſt deſire, than to ſatisfy all that follow it. And it is as truly folly for the poor to ape the rich, as the frog to ſwell, in order to equal the ox.

Veſſels large may venture more,
But little boats ſhould keep near ſhore.

'Tis

'Tis however a folly ſoon publiſhed; for pride that dines on vanity, ſups on contempt; pride breakfaſted with plenty, dined with poverty, and ſupped with infamy. And, after all, of what uſe is this pride of appearance for which ſo much is riſqued, ſo much is ſuffered? It cannot promote health, nor eaſe pain; it makes no increaſe of merit in the perſon, it creates envy, it haſtens misfortune.

What is a butterfly? At beſt
He's but a caterpillar dreſt,
The gaudy fop's his picture juſt.

But what madneſs muſt it be to run in debt for theſe ſuperfluities! We are offered, by the terms of this ſale, ſix months credit; and that, perhaps, has induced ſome of us to attend it, becauſe we cannot ſpare the ready money, and hope now to be fine without it. But think what you do when you go in debt; you give to another power over your liberty. If you cannot pay at the time, you will be aſhamed to ſee your creditor; you will be in fear when you ſpeak to him; you will make poor pitiful ſneaking excuſes, and, by degrees, come to loſe your veracity, and ſink into baſe downright lying; for, the ſecond vice is lying, the firſt is running in debt; lying rides upon debt's back. Whereas a free-born Iriſhman ought not to be aſhamed nor afraid to ſee or ſpeak to any man living. But poverty often deprives a man of all ſpirit and virtue. It is hard for an empty bag to ſtand upright. What would you think of that prince, or of that government, who ſhould iſſue an edict forbidding you to dreſs like a gentleman or a gentlewoman, on pain of impriſonment or ſervitude? Would you not ſay that you were free, have a right to dreſs as you pleaſe, and that ſuch an edict would be a breach of your privileges, and ſuch a government tyrannical! and yet you are about to put yourſelf under that ty-

ranny, when you run in debt for dreſs! Your creditor has authority, at his pleaſure, to deprive you of your liberty, by confining you in gaol for life, or by ſelling you for a ſervant, if you ſhould not be able to pay him. When you have got your bargain, you may, perhaps, think little of payment; but creditors have better memories than debtors; creditors are a ſuperſtitious ſect, great obſervers of ſet days and times. The day comes round before you are aware, and the demand is made before you are prepared to ſatisfy it; or if you bear your debt in mind, the term which at firſt ſeemed ſo long, will, as it leſſens, appear extremely ſhort: time will ſeem to have added wings to his heels as well as his ſhoulders. Thoſe have a ſhort lent, who owe money to be paid at Eaſter. Then ſince the borrower is a ſlave to the lender, and the debtor to the creditor, diſdain the chain, preſerve your freedom and maintain your imdependency; be induſtrious and free, be frugal and free. At preſent, perhaps, you may think yourſelves in thriving circumſtances, and that you can bear a little extravagance without injury; but,

For age and want ſave while you may;
No morning ſun laſts a whole day.

Gain may be temporary and uncertain, but ever, while you live, expence is conſtant and certain; and it is eaſier to build two chimnies, than to keep one in fuel: ſo, rather go to bed ſupperleſs than riſe in debt.

Get what you can, and what you get hold,
'Tis the ſtone that will turn all your lead into gold.

And when you have got the philoſopher's ſtone, ſure you will no longer complain of bad times, or the difficulty of paying taxes.

This doctrine, my friends, is reaſon and wiſdom: but, after all, do not depend too much upon your own

own induſtry, and frugality, and prudence, though excellent things, for they may be all blaſted, without the bleſſing of Heaven; and therefore aſk that bleſſing humbly, and be not uncharitable to thoſe that at preſent ſeem to want it, but comfort and help them. Remember Job ſuffered, and was afterwards proſperous.

And now to conclude, experience keeps a dear ſchool, but fools will learn in no other, and ſcarce in that, for it is true, we may give advice, but we cannot give conduct: however, remember this, they that will not be counſelled, cannot be helped; and if you will not hear reaſon, ſhe will ſurely rap your knuckles.

Thus the old gentleman ended his harangue. The people heared it, and approved the doctrine, and immediately practiſed the contrary, juſt as if it had been a common ſermon; for the auction opened, and they began to buy extravagantly, notwithſtanding all the cautions, and their own fear of taxes.

A CRUIX.

Stand	You	Take	To	Takings
I	Heard	And	Throw	Our

To be read thus:

I underſtand you overheard and undertake to over throw our undertakings.

An amazing Inſtance of Inſenſibility.

ONE P——y, who was pariſh beadle at Iſleworth, (England) a few years ago, had a ſon, who had the misfortune to fall into a mill-pond, and was forced by the ſtream under the mill-wheel which

tore him limb from limb---the father was acquainted with the accident, immediately went to the fatal place, where he, with ſome trouble, collected together the remains of his unfortunate ſon, put them into a bag, and carried them careleſsly acroſs his ſhoulder to his wife, (who had not yet heard of the accident) when throwing upon the table before the unhappy mother, the mangled limbs of her wretched ſon, he cried, "There, you bitch, there is cat's meat and dog's "meat for you!"

The above perſon had another ſon, who was executed at Tyburn for a capital crime, and P——y uſed to upbraid, and frequently to beat the poor mother, for bringing into the world ſuch unfortunate children.

Hiſtory of CLARINDA; *and of her faithleſs and her generous Lover.*

CLARINDA was the daughter of a gentleman of fortune in the county of ——: ſhe excelled moſt of her ſex in beauty: her eyes diſplayed the luſtre of a diamond; her ſkin the fairneſs of the lilly: her features were delicate, her air majeſtic and divine; and what above all made perfections more truly valuable, was, that they were not the work of art, but of nature. She had good ſenſe, an acquired judgment, and every other accompliſhment that affluence and a parent's fondneſs could beſtow.

Florio, a young gentleman of conſiderable family and fortune, and a neighbour of Clarinda, took all opportunities of being in her company: he fell violently in love with her, but his paſſion was founded only upon perſonal charms. Her father encouraged his viſits, as he wiſhed for an alliance with Florio's family; and though at firſt they were diſagreeable to Clarinda, the frequency of them, and the entreaties

of

of her father to accept him for a lover, rendered them by degrees agreeable; eſpecially, as at every meeting, he expreſſed his paſſion with great tenderneſs and fervency. Clarinda believed him a man of virtue, as he vowed his ſoul was enraptured with an honourable love. He ſwore ſo frequently to the ſincerity of his intentions, that the beauteous fair one was at length perſuaded to believe, that, without reciprocal love on her ſide, he would be wretched.

She reſolved to encourage his addreſſes; partly in obedience to her father, and partly out of gratitude, ariſing from his promiſes of love and friendſhip. The conſideration of theſe things prompted her to give him every aſſurance of her regard and eſteem for him. Innocent freedoms, with a mixture of the moſt tender and delicate expreſſions paſſed at every meeting. But oh! one luckleſs hour! he found the fair innocent ſeated in a ſhady grove belonging to her father's garden, in a moment when her mind was fitted to give and to receive the ſoul-diſſolving bliſs of love!—— What a pity, that there are in life ſuch looſe unguarded minutes, when tenderneſs melts down the ſoul, and leaves the breaſt too open to deceivers!——

Such was the time, when ſoftly ſtealing to the grove, Florio found her there; and as ſhe ſat reclined he preſſed the charmer's hand, kiſſed it with ardency, and begged, with love-beguiling tears, ſhe would fix the day to make him happy.---She was greatly affected with the earneſtneſs of his ſolicitations; he ſaw her ſoften, kiſſed her bluſhing cheek, called it the golden minute of his life, and gently preſſed her ſnowy boſom.——Such fondneſs at this time, had an improper effect upon her; ſhe yielded to ſhe knew not what. He, vulture like, hereby ſeized the unguarded opportunity, long waited, and long wiſhed for, and robbed the tender fair one of her virtue.

Alas! poor innocent! no ſooner were they parted, but the thought of what had paſſed gave her ſoul diſtraction! hard was the taſk to conceal her diſtreſs of mind from the family, but ſhame and prudence, for a time, prevented a diſcovery.——She reflected on his oaths of love, ſincerity and conſtancy; and hoped ſhe ſhould have it in her power to ſecure the deceiver, and win him to fulfil them.—For a time, their meetings were as frequent, and as affectionate as ever; and though ſhe was obliged to ſubmit to a continuance of what ſhe at firſt too eaſily conſented to, her ſoul abhorred the thought; but that it ſeemed the likelieſt means of ſecuring him and her future happineſs.

She tenderly preſſed him to marry her, for fear of approaching ſhame, and reaſoned with him on the conſequences of what had paſſed; he had always ſome evaſive excuſe for the preſent; yet, ſhe fondly hoped, as her charms at firſt engaged his love, that they would ſtill have ſufficient power to ſecure him her's. Falſe, flattering hope! he ſoon was "fully ſatiated with "the luſcious banquet," and went but ſeldom to her. At length, "a cold indifference came:" ſhe ſaw the wretch no more!

Judge her diſtraction when ſhe found him falſe!—ſhe hoped, ſhe feared; at laſt——ſhe found her fears true.——Florio was paying his addreſſes to another. On the news of this, Clarinda underwent the moſt agonizing torture the mind is capable of ſuſtaining.—Her father perceiving her diſtreſs of mind, preſſed her to know the cauſe, and that ſo tenderly, that ſhe diſcovered the whole affair without the leaſt reſerve; for her heart was a ſtranger to hypocriſy or deceit.—The good old man, though greatly ſhocked, did not reproach her, well knowing ſuch things are uſeleſs when they come too late; eſpecially as he reflected [illegible] his requeſt ſhe firſt encouraged the perjured

Florio.

Florio.——He conſidered what ſtep was beſt to be taken, and ſoon reſolved to wait on his father, and endeavour to bring matters to a happy concluſion; but before this could be done, he received the news of Florio's marriage.

Her father was greatly ſurprized, but judge the ſhock it gave the tender-hearted Clarinda, whoſe ſpirits were already too much depreſſed, to hope ſhe could long ſurvive this fatal period.---What was now the ſituation of her breaſt? O would theſe perjured falſe ones reflect on the inexpreſſible miſery they cauſe in the minds of the fair ones, who yield to faithleſs vows their virgin innocence, they never could renounce the charming creatures. What a pitch of baſeneſs is it, to ſooth the fond believing maid with tender tales of love, and watch the unguarded minute to rob her of every thing that is dear and ſacred to her! What infamy to debauch a young innocent, under the ſpecious pretences of love and honour!—— How mean, ungenerous, and unjuſt, thus to treat the tender fair ones, ſent as companions in the cares of life!

"The cordial drop, heav'n in our cup has thrown,
"To make the naufeous draught of life go down."

The unhappy Clarinda was ſunk into a melancholy, from which the intreaties of her friends were not able to extricate her. The affair ſoon became public, through the malevolence of impertinent curioſity; yet every one condemned the perjured Florio, every one pitied the injured Clarinda.

A young nobleman of the neighbourhood, who (though he had never ſeen her) was not unacquainted with her perſon and accompliſhments, from the voice of fame; and being a lover of ſtrict honour, and a friend to virtue, he was ſenſibly moved with the injury done ſo deſerving a creature. He intereſted

himſelf

himſelf in the affair from a principle of humanity, and perſuaded her father to demand ſatisfaction of Florio, for the violation of his daughter's innocence and virtue; eſpecially as it could be proved by ſome letters ſent to Clarinda, he had promiſed her marriage.

His advice was ſeconded by every friend to Clarinda, to honour, and to virtue. They had a meeting at her father's houſe to conſult on proper methods concerning the proſecution. The young nobleman ſaw the charming Clarinda, and it is impoſſible to expreſs his ſurpriſe and amazement. If from report he thought her beautiful, he now believed her more than woman, though ſhe was greatly dejected by her preſent unhappy circumſtances and diſtreſs. It ſhocked his honeſt ſoul when he reflected on the injury ſhe had received; and he wondered ſo many charms of perſon and mind, were not ſufficient to ſecure the falſe deceiver, or at leaſt reſtrain him from the execution of his baſe purpoſe. The reflecting on her fallen condition, and the deep ſenſe ſhe appeared to have of it, inſpired him with a love for her, rather than a diſguſt. He painted to his mind the happineſs which muſt attend the poſſeſſion of ſo divine a creature, and determined to make her his, notwithſtanding what had happened.

This amiable young nobleman did not look on theſe things with a vulgar eye; he poſſeſſed an elevated ſoul above the common rank of men. He thought it no diſgrace to marry a woman under Clarinda's circumſtances; nor did he imagine it any reflection on his character to relieve the diſtreſſes of a worthy object; and above all, he was charmed with having it in his power to deliver a tender fair one from the contempt of the world, and inevitable ruin; being ſenſible the conſtant acknowledgments gratitude would teach her to make, would be one grand motive towards their connubial happineſs.

He-

He communicated his intention to her father, and aſked his permiſſion to addreſs Clarinda. The old gentleman was greatly ſurpriſed, and received his offer with coldneſs, fearing it might prove the ſecond undoing of his unhappy daughter; but conſidering his known character, and converſing more fully with him on the ſubject, every doubt was removed, and he gave his conſent.---It was with great difficulty that Clarinda was brought to liſten to the propoſal. She was inclined to think the whole ſex falſe; nor could ſhe eaſily ſhake from her heart the love and eſteem ſhe had entertained for Florio, notwithſtanding his perfidy and baſeneſs.

Her new lover embraced every opportunity of ſeeing and converſing with her. By degrees ſhe recovered her ſpirits, and inclined to favour his addreſſes. From every view he appeared a man of honour and integrity, and one who ſcorned to take any advantage of her misfortune. He perpetually declared the ſincerity of his heart, and his affection for her, in ſuch artleſs and honeſt terms, that ſhe was charmed with him, nor doubted his honour; but though ſhe liſtened to him with pleaſure, ſhe received his addreſſes with a becoming prudence, and conſtantly repreſented to him the probable conſequences of his marrying a perſon of her fortune, and under ſuch circumſtances: that it moſt likely would draw the cenſures of the world on him, and be a means of his loſing the favour and friendſhip of his relations at leaſt.——This rather increaſed than abated his affection, and in a little time he accompliſhed the ſummit of all his wiſhes, and his kind promiſes to her, by making her his wife.

He is fond of her to an exceſs, and her love and gratitude teach her to pleaſe and to eſteem him; and in ſo doing, they lead ſuch happy lives as are the natural rewards of the virtuous and benevolent, from the diſpenſations of a gracious Providence.——Thus

We

we ſee, when a generous mind recompenſes a favour received, it is hard to know whether the giver or receiver enjoys the greateſt pleaſure. Nor do I know a better piece of advice for the ladies than the moral of this ſtory, which teaches them to be cautious whom they truſt, ſince a fierce love, cauſed by perſonal charms, is too often attended with fatal conſequences: that the paſſion ariſing from beauty alone, generally deſerves a much coarſer name than love: that caution and modeſty ſhould be the companions of their courting hours; and that the more they give before marriage, the leſs they have to beſtow after.

The OLD CHEESE: *a Tale. By Dr.* King.

YOUNG Slouch the farmer had a jolly wife,
That knew all the conveniencies of life,
Whoſe diligence and cleanlineſs ſupply'd
The wit which nature had to him deny'd;
But then ſhe had a tongue that would be heard,
And make a better man than Slouch afraid.
This made cenſorious perſons of the town
Say, Slouch could hardly call his ſoul his own:
For if he went abroad too much, ſhe'd uſe
To give him ſlippers, and lock up his ſhoes.
Talking he lov'd, and ne'er was more afflicted,
Than when he was diſturb'd or contradicted:
Yet ſtill into his ſtory ſhe would break,
With, 'Tis not ſo—Pray give me leave to ſpeak.
His friends thought this was a tyrannic rule,
Not differing much from calling of him, Fool;
Told him he muſt exert himſelf, and be
In fact the maſter of his family.
He ſaid, that the next Tueſday noon would ſhew
Whether he were the lord at home, or no;
When their good company he would entreat
To well-brew'd ale, and clean, if homely, meat.

With

With aking heart home to his wife he goes,
And on his knees does his raſh act diſcloſe,
And prays dear Sukey, that one day at leaſt,
He might appear as maſter of the feaſt.
I'll grant your wiſh, cries ſhe, that thou may'ſt ſee
'Twere wiſdom to be govern'd ſtill by me.
The gueſts upon the day appointed came,
Each bowſy farmer with his ſimp'ring dame.
Hoe! Sue! cries Slouch, why doſt not thou appear?
Are theſe thy manners when aunt Snap is here?
I pardon aſk, ſays Sue, I'd not offend
Any my dear invites, much leſs his friend.
Slouch by his kinſman Gruffy had been taught,
To entertain his friends with finding fault,
And make the main ingredient of his treat,
His ſaying there was nothing fit to eat;
The boil'd pork ſtinks, the roaſt beef's not enough,
The bacon's ruſty, and the hens are tough;
The veal's all rags, the butter's turn'd to oil;
And thus I buy good meat for ſluts to ſpoil.
'Tis we are the firſt Slouches ever fat
Down to a pudding without plumbs or fat.
What teeth or ſtomach's ſtrong enough to feed
Upon a gooſe my grannum kept to breed?
Why muſt old pigeons, and they ſtale, be dreſt,
When there's ſo many ſquab ones in the neſt?
This beer is ſour, this muſty, thick and ſtale,
And worſe than any thing except the ale.
Sue all this while many excuſes made,
Some things ſhe own'd, at other times ſhe laid
The fault on chance, but oftner on the maid.
Then cheeſe was brought. Says Slouch, this e'en ſhall roll:
I'm ſure 'tis hard enough to make a bowl:
This is ſkim-milk, and therefore it ſhall go,
And this, becauſe 'tis Suffolk, follow too.

But

But now Sue's patience did begin to waſte,
Nor longer could diſſimulation laſt.
Pray let me riſe, ſays Sue; my dear, I'll find
A cheeſe perhaps may be to lovey's mind.
Then in entry, ſtanding cloſe, where he
Alone, and none of all his friends might ſee:
And brandiſhing a cudgel he had felt,
And far enough on this occaſion ſmelt;
I'll try, my joy, ſhe cry'd, if I can pleaſe
My deareſt with a taſte of his old cheeſe.
Slouch turn'd his head, ſaw his wife's vigorous hand
Wielding her oaken ſapling of command,
Knew well the twang: Is't the old cheeſe my dear?
No need, no need of cheeſe, cries Slouch, I'll ſwear:
I think I've din'd as well as my lord-mayor.

A pleaſant CONCEIT.

I.

She	One	he	one
Only	Only	Only	Only
Are	But	Am	But
You	Loves	I	is
And	that	and	There

II.

He	One	Me	Same
Only	Only	Unto	The
Are	But	You	For
You	Love	Say	Me
And	I	And	Requite.

The above two verſes are to be read each of them from the laſt word backwards---thus---

There

I.

There is but only one,
And I am only he;
That loves but only one,
And you are only she.

II.

Requite me for the same
And say you unto me,
I love but only one,
And you are only he.

The Adventures of SINCERITY: *an Allegory.*

SINCERITY, the daughter of Honour and Integrity, was born at a village far distant from the metropolis. The worthy couple were unwilling to confine themselves in such retirement, but thinking their darling infant too young to be introduced into the polite world, and also being desirous of knowing what reception they might find in it, consigned her to the care of a person with whom they had resided some years.

For some short time she seemed to cherish her young charge with the fondest attention; but it was only in appearance; for immediately on the departure of her old friends, she grew discontented in the station in which she was placed, and more aspiring notions quickly took possession of her thoughts. She began with applications to such, whose ability seemed to promise success to the scheme she had adopted. This took her often from home, where she would leave her little charge whole weeks, as she knew enough of the world to prevent her taking Sincerity on those visits, wisely considering she might prove an insurmountable obstacle to her advancement.

A worthy

A worthy lady in that neigbourhood, ſeeing the child neglected, and thinking ſhe would be a valuable companion to her only daughter, requeſted her company, which requeſt was ſoon complied with by the other, who was glad to part with a perſon who ſeemed now an incumbrance. Sincery found herſelf truly happy in her new ſituation; the old lady was remarkably fond of her, and the young one received all her advances with pleaſure. In ſome viſits they had the mortification to perceive the company of their young gueſt was not ſo acceptable as they wiſhed; but were in hopes, when their acquaintance could be made ſenſible of her merit, their regard would increaſe.

Sincerity and the young Flavia were inſeparable, and ſome years paſt without any material incidents worth mentioning. The old lady thinking it neceſſary Flavia ſhould ſee more of the world, took a houſe in the capital; but before her journey, wrote to the perſon who formerly had the care of her young friend, for ſome intelligence in regard to her parents; but the anſwer ſhe returned was far from being ſatisfactory, as ſhe had kept up no intercourſe with them for a conſiderable time: however, as they were people of merit, the mother of Flavia made no doubt of hearing of them from ſome of her acquaintance in high rank, who came to congratulate her return to a place ſhe had been abſent from many years.

After the moſt ſtrict enquiry, ſhe met with very little ſucceſs; ſeveral declared they were well acquainted with their names, but could never diſcover where they dwelt. The good lady was near being impoſed on at different times by perſons who aſſumed the characters ſhe was in ſearch of; but when introduced to Sincerity, ſhe immediately diſcovered them to be vain pretenders. Flavia was admitted into moſt of the polite aſſemblies; her young friend conſtantly attend-

ed

ed her, but ſoon found her company was not ſo acceptable as formerly.

Flavia became acquainted with two young ladies of foreign extraction; their names, Faſhion and Good-Breeding. From the time her intimacy with them commenced, her regard for Sincerity viſibly decreaſed. If ſhe ſometimes took her into company, ſhe was often embarraſſed by ſaying or giving ear to things ſhe was conſcious the other could not approve; and being very uneaſy in her company, ſhe ſought for opportunities to reject her acquaintance. Such a behaviour from one, who for years ſeemed as part of herſelf, wounded the ſenſible heart of the ſlighted fair-one: ſhe called that heart to a ſtrict examination, to find out, if poſſible, In what ſhe had offended her hitherto partial friend; but the reſult was, a conſciouſneſs of having acted as became a daughter of Honour and Integrity. She found her abſence was deſired; and having received a private intimation where ſhe might join her parents, ſhe withdrew from a family wherein ſhe had experienced the higheſt pleaſure and the greateſt miſery.

If Sincerity hereafter ſhould once more condeſcend to mix in common life, my fair country-women muſt permit me to adviſe them, to court her acquaintance, leſt, like Flavia, after a life of diſſipation, they alſo may have the mortification to find, inſtead of the admiration of many, they have not the eſteem of even one, and, amongſt a numerous acquaintance, are in want of one of the greateſt bleſſings in life, by not poſſeſſing one real friend.——Some perſons have hinted, as if Sincerity and her parents were ſettled in ſome diſtant clime; but the writer of this is very well aſſured, there is no foundation for ſuch a report, being certain that worthy family is ſtill in this kingdom, and retained with the moſt cordial affection (from a

thorough knowledge of their intrinſic merit) by the greateſt perſonage in it.

Account of a DWARF.

AT Okeham in Rutlandſhire, (England) in the year 1619, was born one Jeffery Hudſon, a man, who when he was ſeven years old, was not above fifteen inches high, though his parents, who had ſeveral other children of the uſual ſize, were tall and luſty. At that age, he was taken into the family of the Duke of Buckingham; and to divert the court, who, on a progreſs through this country, were entertained at the Duke's ſeat, at Burley on the Hill, he was ſerved up to table in a cold pye. Between the ſeventh and thirtieth years of his age, he did not advance many years in ſtature, but ſoon after thirty, he ſhot up to the height of three feet nine inches, which he never exceeded.

Death ſtrangely prevented.

IN the hiſtory of Muſcovy, publiſhed by the ambaſſador Demetrius, we read the memorable fortune of a country peaſant. This man ſeeking for honey, got into a hollow tree, where was ſuch plenty of it, that it ſucked him up to his breaſt; and being unable to get out, he had lived two days upon honey only, and finding his voice could not be heard in that ſolitary wood, deſpaired of freeing himſelf from this ſweet captivity. A huge bear came to the ſame tree to eat the honey, of which theſe beaſts are very greedy, and deſcending with his hinder parts foremoſt, the poor fellow catched hold of his loins; the bear terribly frighted, laboured with all his might to get out, and

ſo

ſo drew the peaſant from his ſweet priſon, which otherwiſe had proved his grave.

ABDALLAH: *an Eaſtern Tale.*

IN the city of Samarcand, while Jenghizcan ſwayed the imperial ſceptre of the Eaſt, lived Abdallah, the ſon of Mirza; proſperity awaited his call, and ſucceſs crowned all his endeavours: nor was he deaf to the voice of virtue. His benevolence diffuſed itſelf far and wide, as the fragrance of the ſpicy groves wafted on the balmy wings of the Eaſtern breeze. Abdallah, the rich, the happy, and the virtuous, was echoed from where the ſun firſt tinges the morning clouds with purple, to where his revolving chariot ſinks into the embraces of the Weſtern ocean.

Amongſt the crowds who frequented his houſe was one Haly, a man of a ſeeming melancholy diſpoſition, and ſolitary turn of mind. When Abdallah one day had ſhewn him all his ſumptuous apartments, and all the ſplendor of immenſe riches, and aſked his opinion of what he ſaw; he replied coldly, "Allah and our prophet are my witneſſes, that I eſteem a ſolitary recluſe far happier than thee with all thy riches." While Abdallah ſtood amazed at this reply, he thus continued——"In the wilds of Sara lives Aladin, the ſon of Aboulcaſem; the herbs of the field ſupply his table, and the running ſtream ſlakes his thirſt; regardleſs of the luxuries of life, he covets not the ſpices of Arabia, nor the glittering gems of Irak. Content to him ſupplies the place of riches, and a chearful mind the want of power:——ſon of Mirza, this is the man whoſe ſtate I account far preferable to thine; and ſo wouldſt thou thyſelf, couldſt thou be capable of enjoying the ſweets of retirement."

He ceaſed, and his words left a deep impreſſion on the heart of his friend; he became eager to try by experience the truth of what Haly had ſaid; often would he ſend for him, and queſtion him more concerning the Derviſe whom he had mentioned, till at laſt he perſuaded himſelf that felicity reſided only in the ſcenes of ſimple nature; and ſoon actually put an end to his anxiety, by taking a ſudden journey unattended, to the place which had been pointed out to him for the habitation of Aladin.

When he firſt arrived at the retreat, he was ſo well pleaſed with the unruffled calm of a ſolitary life, that he thought himſelf more than compenſated for all the pleaſures he had left behind; but alas! how unſtable are the reſolutions of youth!——the daughter of the vizier Abdelaziz, lovely as one of the Houri, had heard by ſome means of his retirement, and followed him into thoſe ſhades, to diſſuade him from ſo ſtrange a reſolution. Amiable as he was, it was no wonder ſhe had conceived a paſſion for his perſon. While he was muſing under the ſhadow of a tree, fanned by the refreſhing evening breeze, ſhe approached him and drew aſide her veil.——The ſight of ſo much beauty (for he had never before beheld her, though ſhe had often ſeen him) was too ſtrong for the youthful heart of Abdallah; and when ſhe diſcovered herſelf, and told the motive of her journey, nothing could equal his perplexity. When he turned away from her he retained his old reſolutions of quitting the world, but when he caſt a glance on her beauties they were all overthrown.——He was in this perplexing ſituation, when the derviſe Aladin ſuddenly appeared, and (the lady withdrawing) thus addreſſed him:

"Wonder not, ſon of Mirza, that I am fully informed of all that concern thee: this night the prophet has viſited me in a viſion for thy ſake. In vain thou ſeekeſt to lead the life of a hermit, with the paſ-

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ſions of a lover. Heaven, which bade day and night ſucceed each other, has appointed ſeaſons for all things. The ſequeſtered life of a derviſe by no means ſuits the temper of a youthful mind. Go then, my ſon, and while youth glows on thy cheek, and diffuſes its generous ardour through thy heart, be truly happy in a ſocial life: enjoy the innocent pleaſures, without running into criminal exceſſes of the world; make all thy ſtudies uſeful, all thy amuſements innocent; and let pleaſure be thy diverſion, but virtue thy chief good.---Then, if in old age, thou art tired of the enjoyments of this world, retire to ſolitude for reſt and make contemplation thy ſweeteſt companion."

Abdallah followed his advice; he returned to Samarcand, and eſpouſed the daughter of Abdelaziz; and that vizier ſoon after dying, he ſucceeded to his office, which he filled with univerſal applauſe, and enjoyed, till thirty times the revolving year had run its courſe; then having loſt the partner of his bed, and growing old, he remembered the words of the derviſe, and once more withdrew to ſolitude, which then exactly ſuited his condition; day ſucceeded day, and year rolled on after year in one continued ſcene of real felicity, and he glided down the current of time, on the gentle ſtream of a calm compoſure. At laſt the angel of death, by a quick and eaſy tranſition bore him to the gardens of Paradiſe, leaving behind him this uſeful leſſon: "That the morning of life ſhould be ſpent in acts of virtue, that the decline of it may be bleſſed with ſerenity and peace."

A remarkable Story of Predeſtination.

NOT many years ago, a gentleman from a conſiderable diſtance, came upon a viſit to a friend's houſe, another gentleman of this neighbourhood, and on the laſt day of his journey, was obliged to croſs a great

great river, or arm of the ſea, in a little ferry-boat, which he did proſperouſly enough; in his friend's houſe at night, being of the gay reaſoning part of mankind, he, in the courſe of a mixed converſation, acquainted the company——" That his fortune had been told (or as the ſaying is, his nativity calculated) immediately on his birth, which was, that he would be drowned on the day he was thirty years of age, which (he gaily added) was that very day, pleaſantly rallying the ſuperſtition of his mother, and the good-women about her at his birth, and declaring that he croſſed the ſaid ferry with the more pleaſure, in order to expoſe the weakneſs of ſuch idle conceits. The company joined with him in his opinion all along, and diverted themſelves much with the ſuperſtition of moſt women, and all common people.

But ſitting up late, this ſame gentleman went by himſelf (which he had no occaſion to do) much concerned in liquor, and unobſerved by the reſt, who were in the like condition, into a back yard, in order as it is ſuppoſed to ſee for the little houſe, and hitting his foot againſt ſomething in the way, pitched headlong into a deep well, where he was unfortunately drowned before any of the family miſſed him, or knew any thing of him.

The DISCONTENTED MAN: *a Fable.*

A Man of an envious temper, fretful, cenſorious, and always in oppoſition, happened to die unexpectedly, when no attending ſpirit was at hand to conduct his departing ſoul, ſtrolled away he knew not whither, and by accident wandered into heaven. A young angel ſeeing him alone, gazing about as one that knew not where to go, accoſted him civilly, and ſaid, I perceive you are a ſtranger, ſir; I congratulate you

you on your arrival, and hope that this place pleaſes you. Not at all, ſays he; here is a great deal too much light; and beſides, I ſee nothing to eat or drink. You may have, replied the angel, plenty of the bread and water of life. Bread and water, ſays he, I could have had that at home, even in Bridewell. The ſplendor of our city muſt however pleaſe you; thoſe gates adorned with precious ſtones, and this rich pavement!—Far from it ſays he; I think it monſtrous extravagance to trample gold thus under foot; it were better applied to diſcharge the national debt. You forget where you are, replied the angel; our government is good and wiſe, and you will approve its meaſures when you are better acquainted with them. That I don't believe, ſays he; for I underſtand a Jew is firſt miniſter here, who has the inſolence in full court to ſeat himſelf on a throne, placing his ſovereign on his left hand.——The angel, highly offended at this, acquainted Gabriel with the ſtranger's rudeneſs, ſaying, he apprehended there muſt have been ſome miſtake in bringing him to heaven; and offering, if ſo ordered, to turn him out again.—Let him remain, ſays Gabriel, for this is his proper place of puniſhment. "In hell he could not have been ſo miſerable."

A remarkable Reviveſcence, or recovery from being hanged.

IN the year 1650, one Ann Green, a ſervant to Sir Thomas Read of Dunſtrew in Oxfordſhire, being got with child by ſome ſervant in the family, by over-working herſelf, fell in labour at the end of the fourth month; but being a young wench, and not knowing what was the matter with herſelf, repaired to the neceſſary-houſe, where after ſtraining for ſome time, a child, not above a ſpan long, and of what ſex not to be diſtinguiſhed, fell from her unawares: ſhort-

ly afterwards ſome marks or ſtains appearing on the linen where ſhe lay, and ſhe having confeſſed herſelf guilty of the cauſe, a ſearch was made for the effect, and the child found among the ordure. On which ſhe was, three days after her delivery, carried to the caſtle at Oxford, where an aſſize being held by a ſpecial commiſſion, ſhe was arraigned, tryed and condemned; and was, according to her ſentence, hanged in the caſtle-yard at Oxford, where ſhe hung for the ſpace of half an hour, being pulled by the legs, ſtruck on the breaſt, &c. and in the end had ſeveral ſtrokes on the ſtomach given her with the but-end of a ſoldier's-muſket.

Being cut down, ſhe was put into a coffin, and brought away to be diſſected; when upon opening the coffin, notwithſtanding that the rope remained ſtill unlooſed, and tight about her neck, they perceived her breaſt to heave, when one out of charity, ſet his foot on her breaſt and belly, and a ſoldier ſtruck her again with the but-end of his muſket. Notwithſtanding all which, when Sir William Petty, the anatomy profeſſor in the univerſity, came to prepare the body for diſſection, they perceived a ratling in her throat, and thereupon deſiſting from their purpoſe they preſently uſed means for her recovery, by opening a vein, laying her in a warm bed, and cauſing another to go to bed with her; and uſing ſeveral other remedies, as they thought moſt convenient in the caſe. In about fourteen hours ſhe began to revive, and ſpeak, and the next day talked very briſkly, during the time of her recovery.

The officers would have had her again to have completed the execution, but through the mediation of the doctors, who were preſent, the governor of the town ſet a guard upon her to hinder all diſturbance, till a pardon was procured for her.

Being

Being enquired of by Dr. Petty, and the other doctors, concerning her ſenſe and apprehenſions, during the time of her hanging, till ſhe came to herſelf; ſhe at firſt anſwered as if ſhe had been then to ſuffer; ſaying, "She hoped God would give her patience," and the like; but being better recovered, ſhe affirmed, "That ſhe neither remembered how her fetters were taken off, how ſhe went out of priſon, when ſhe was turned off the ladder, nor any thing at the gallows; nor was ſhe ſenſible of any pain ſhe had felt." What is farther obſerveable, is, that ſhe came to herſelf as one awaking out of ſleep, not recovering her ſpeech by degrees, but at once, and beginning to ſpeak juſt where ſhe left of at the gallows.

After being perfectly recovered, and having returned thanks to God and her benefactors, for her deliverance, ſhe retired to Steeple Barton in the ſame county where ſhe married, had three children, and lived in good repute for ſeveral years.

Story of De L'isle *and* De La Fosse.

DE L'ISLE and De La Foſſe were two French officers, who lived not long ago. They had both been born in the ſame town, the ſame ſtreet, and were almoſt next door neighbours. They had paſſed their infancy, and the firſt part of their youthful years, together as play-fellows or ſchool-fellows, and a moſt cordial friendſhip was contracted.

Unfortunately for them and their parents, an officer's commiſſion for each was purchaſed in two different regiments, between whom had long ſubſiſted an inveterate animoſity. Whenever a rivalſhip of this kind happens between two regiments, it is the buſineſs of their ſuperiors to caution againſt their meeting each other either on march or in garriſon, and even to guard againſt a meeting of the individuals; for which

which reaſon before the one regiment arrives at garriſon, it is evacuated by the other.

De L'Iſle's regiment was upon duty at Montpellier, and De La Foſſe bore his commiſſion in a regiment that was to ſucceed it. The latter having a ſtrong deſire to ſee the former, obtained leave to go a day or two before, on pretence to ſee a friend of his who was much indiſpoſed.

De L'Iſle was tranſported with joy at ſeeing him, as well as on account of the obliging ſtratagem he had invented for that purpoſe.

Having dined and drank a chearful glaſs of Frontiniac together, De L'Iſle conducted his friend to a kind of licenſed gaming-houſe in the environs of Montpellier. They played a few games: De L'Iſle, having the run of cards in his favour, won every one. The other, ſomewhat piqued, ſaid unguardedly, "Is it poſſible to win ſo? How do you contrive to get ſuch cards?" "Keep your temper," replied De L'Iſle, "the cards may favour you in a game or two more."----This friendly altercation ended in a laugh on both ſides. They paid the uſual tax of the place for cards, went home, ſupped together, and on parting took a farewell embrace of each other, De L'Iſle being to ſet out from Montpellier with his regiment the next morning, in order to make room for De La Foſſe's.

It ſeems, unhappily for them both, and quite unknown to De L'Iſle, that an officer belonging to his corps, who had got intelligence of De La Foſſe's belonging to the regiment adverſe to theirs, ſtood behind while they played at cards, in order to obſerve what ſhould paſs between them. The buſy liſtner had remarked the impatient expreſſions at loſing, which De La Foſſe's too warm temper had let eſcape. Theſe ſeeming to imply an inuendo of foul play, he conſtrued as an affront; which, on account of the then

ſubſiſt-

ſubſiſting regimental antipathy, was not then to be put up with. Wherefore waiting on De L'Iſle in the morning, he told him his ſenſe of the affair, and that he muſt go and demand immediate ſatisfaction, both for the ſake of his own honour, and that of the corps to which he belonged.

De L'Iſle, alarmed at the cruel purport of this unexpected viſit, remonſtrated to his brother-officer the undeſigning and good-natured warmth of his friend: that they had been intimate from their infancy; that the fatal conſequences, perhaps, of ſuch a requiſition would effectually ruin his peace of mind for ever, ſhould he be even the ſurvivor.

All his excuſes, however, were treated as unmanly; and he was told, he might do as he pleaſed; but that a faithful narrative of the affair ſhould be laid before the ſuperior officers.

Torn with anxiety and horror, he went to De La Foſſe's lodgings, and acquainted him with the terrible dilemma they were both in, and that the horrid mandate of military uſage muſt be obeyed. They went out upon the ramparts of the town, drew their ſwords with great regret againſt each other, and ſoon received on both ſides wounds ſufficient to diſable them from continuing the combat any more that day, as well as to atone, in the judgment of any men but refined Barbarians, for ſo trifling, nay, imaginary an affront.

This duel was fought in the ſight of ſome of De L'Iſle's officers, who had been ſent on purpoſe to obſerve him. As ſoon as he got his wounds dreſt, he repaired to ſatisfy his ſuperior officers. Theſe refuſed to ſee him, but ordered that it ſhould be intimated to him, that what he had done was not enough, becauſe one of the parties muſt die.

In conſequence of this mercileſs injunction, the diſtracted youths, neither deſiring to outlive his friend, by mutual agreement ran upon each other's ſword, in

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the fond hopes of expiring together; which was nearly the caſe; for De La Foſſe dropt in the inſtant at De L'Iſle's feet, who was ſo terribly wounded that his recovery was deſpaired of for ſix weeks by the ſurgeon to whoſe houſe he had been privately conveyed, and where he was kept ſecreted from all the enquiries of juſtice.

De La Foſſe was, by the immediate care of the military gentlemen, thrown into a hole dug for that purpoſe, and round which they ſtood with their ſwords drawn, till the fleſh was all conſumed, or ſo far disfigured, that the ſentence of the law could not be executed upon it, viz. That the body of a perſon ſlain in a duel, is to be dragged on a ſledge through the ſtreets, &c.——In about three months after this unhappy cataſtrophe, De L'Iſle eſcaped privately in the night time from Montpellier, and fled to Spain, where he has lived ever ſince, lamenting the loſs of his country, his parents, and his friend.

Curious Account of the Sicilian Banditti, in a Letter from a Gentleman on his Travels.

Meſſina, May 21, 1770.

WE are juſt returned from the Prince of Villa Franca's. He received us politely, but with a good deal of ſtate. He offered us the uſe of his carriages, as there are none to be hired; and, in the uſual ſtile, begged to know in what he could be of ſervice to us. We told him (with an apology for our abrupt departure) that we were obliged to ſet off to-morrow, and begged his protection on our journey; he replied, that he would immediately give orders for guards to attend us, that ſhould be anſwerable for every thing; that we need give ourſelves no farther trouble; that whatever number of mules we had occaſion for, ſhould be ready at the door of the inn, at

any

any hour we ſhould think proper to appoint: he added, that we might entirely rely on theſe guards, who were people of the moſt determined reſolution, as well as of the moſt approved confidence, and would not fail to chaſtiſe on the ſpot, any perſon that ſhould preſume to impoſe upon us.

Now, who do you think theſe truſty and well-beloved guards are compoſed of? Why of the moſt daring, and moſt hardened villains, perhaps, that are to be met with upon earth, who, in any other country, would have been broken upon the wheel, or hung in chains; but are here publickly protected, and univerſally feared and reſpected. It was this part of the police of Sicily that I was afraid to give you an account of: however, I have now converſed with the prince's people on the ſubject, and they have confirmed every circumſtance that Mr. Meaſtre (our banker) made me acquainted with.

He told me, that in this eaſt part of the iſland, called Val Demonii, from the devils that are ſuppoſed to inhabit Mount Ætna; it has ever been found altogether impracticable to extirpate the banditti; there being nũmberleſs caverns and ſubterraneous paſſages around that mountain, where no troops could poſſibly purſue them: that, beſides, as they are known to be perfectly determined and reſolute, never failing to take a dreadful revenge on all who have offended them, the Prince of Villa Franca has embraced it; not only as the ſafeſt, but likewiſe as the wiſeſt and moſt political ſcheme, to become their declared patron and protector. And ſuch of them as think proper to leave their mountains and foreſts, though perhaps only for a time, are ſure to meet with good encouragement, and a certain protection in his ſervice, where they enjoy the moſt unbounded confidence, which, in no inſtance, they have ever yet been found to make an improper, or a diſhoneſt uſe of it. They

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are cloathed in the prince's livery, yellow and green, with ſilver lace; and wear likewiſe a badge of their honourable order, which entitles them to univerſal fear and reſpect from the people.

I have juſt been interrupted by an upper ſervant of the prince's, who, both by his looks and language, ſeems to be of the ſame worthy fraternity. He tells us, that he has ordered our muleteers, at their peril, to be ready by day-break; but that we need not go till we think proper; for it is their buſineſs to attend on *noſtri eccellenzi*.---He ſays he has likewiſe ordered two of the moſt deſperate fellows in the whole iſland to accompany us; adding, in a ſort of whiſper, that we need be under no apprehenſion; for that if any perſon ſhould preſume to impoſe upon us of a ſingle baiocc *(a)*, that they would certainly put them to death. I gave him an ounce *(b)*, which I knew was what he expected; on which he redoubled his bows and his excellenzas, and declared we were the moſt *honorabali Signiori* he had ever met with, and that if we pleaſed, he himſelf ſhould have the honour of attending us, and would chaſtiſe any perſon that ſhould dare to take the wall of us, or injure us in the moſt minute trifle. We thanked him for his zeal, ſhewing him we had ſwords of our own, on which, bowing reſpectfully, he retired.

I can now, with more aſſurance, give you ſome account of the converſation I had with Signior Maeſtre, who ſeems to be a very intelligent man, and has reſided here for theſe great many years.

He ſays, that in ſome circumſtances theſe banditti are the moſt reſpectable people of the iſland, and have by much the higheſt and moſt romantic notions of what they call their point of honour. That, however criminal they may be with regard to ſociety in general,

(a) A ſmall coin. *(b) About eleven ſhillings.*

ral, yet, with reſpect to one another, and to every perſon to whom they have once profeſſed it, they have ever maintained the moſt unſhaken fidelity. The magiſtrates have often been obliged to protect them, and pay them court, as they are known to be perfectly determined, and deſperate, and ſo extremely vindictive, that they will certainly put any perſon to death that has ever given them juſt cauſe of provocation. On the other hand, it never was known that any perſon who had put himſelf under their protection, and ſhewed that he had confidence in them, had cauſe to repent of it, or was injured by any of them, in the moſt minute trifle; but on the contrary, they will protect him from impoſitions of every kind, and ſcorn to go halves with the land-lord, like moſt other conductors and travelling ſervants; and will defend him with their lives if there is occaſion. That thoſe of their number who have thus enliſted themſelves in the ſervice of ſociety, are known and reſpected by the other banditti all over the iſland; and the perſons of thoſe they accompany are ever held ſacred. For theſe reaſons, moſt travellers chuſe to hire a couple of them from town to town; and may thus travel over the whole iſland in ſafety. To illuſtrate their character the more, he added two ſtories which happened but a few days ago, and are ſtill in every body's mouth.

A number of people were found digging in a place where ſome treaſure was ſuppoſed to have been hid during the plague: as this has been forbid under the moſt ſevere penalties, they were immediately carried to priſon, and expected to have been treated without mercy; but, luckily for the others, one of theſe heroes happened to be of the number. He immediately wrote to the Prince of Villa Franca, and made uſe of ſuch powerful arguments in their favour, that they were all immediately ſet at liberty.

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This will ſerve to ſhew their conſequence with the civil power; the other ſtory will give you a ſtrong idea of their barbarous ferocity, and the horrid mixture of ſtubborn vice and virtue (if I may call it by that name) that ſeems to direct their actions. I ſhould have mentioned, that they have a practice of borrowing money from the country people who never dare refuſe them; and if they promiſe to pay it, they have ever been found punctual and exact, both as to the time and the ſum; and would much rather rob and murder an innocent perſon, than fail of payment at the day appointed: and this they have been often obliged to do, only in order (as they ſay) to fulfil their engagements, and to ſave their honour.

It happened within this fortnight, that the brother of one of theſe heroic banditti having occaſion for money, and not knowing how to procure it, determined to make uſe of his brother's name and authority, an artifice which he thought could not be eaſily diſcovered; accordingly he went to a country prieſt, and told him his brother had occaſion for twenty ducats, which he deſired he would immediately lend him. The prieſt aſſured him he had not ſo large a ſum, but that if he would return in a few days it ſhould be ready for him. The other replied, that he was afraid to return to his brother with this anſwer; and deſired, that he would by all means take care to keep out of his way, at leaſt till ſuch time as he had pacified him, otherwiſe he could not be anſwerable for the conſequences.—As bad fortune would have it, the very next day the prieſt and the robber met in a narrow road; the former fell a trembling as the latter approached, and at laſt dropt on his knees to beg for mercy. The robber aſtoniſhed at this behaviour, deſired to know the cauſe of it. The trembling prieſt anſwered, "Il denaro, il denaro." The money, the money—but ſend your brother to-morrow, and you

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ſhall have it. The haughty robber aſſured him, that he diſdained taking money of a poor prieſt; adding, that if any of his brothers had been low enough to make ſuch a demand, he himſelf was ready to advance the ſum. The prieſt acquainted him with the viſit he had received the preceding night from his brother, by his order; aſſuring him, that if he had been maſter of the ſum, he ſhould immediately have ſupplied it.——Well, ſays the robber, I will now convince you whether my brother or I are moſt to be believed; you ſhall go with me to his houſe, which is but a few miles diſtant.——On their arrival before the door, the robber called on his brother, who never ſuſpecting the diſcovery, immediately came to the balcony; but on perceiving the prieſt, he began to make excuſes for his conduct. The robber told him there was no excuſe to be made; that he only deſired to know the fact: if he had gone to borrow money of that prieſt in his name or not?——On his owning it, the robber with deliberate coolneſs lifted his blunderbuſs to his ſhoulder, and ſhot him dead; and turning to the aſtoniſhed prieſt, "You will now be perſuaded," ſaid he, "that I had no intention of robbing you at leaſt."

The FAVOURITE CAT: *a Tale.*

A Cat, a fav'rite one, 'tis ſaid,
Was by her miſtreſs daily fed;
Indulg'd with milk, and that was new,
Sometimes, to pleaſe her, ſugar'd too:
No bit ſo nice but Puſs muſt have,
Her maw to fill, her life to ſave:
In ſhort, her miſtreſs priz'd her more
Than ever Cat was priz'd before.
More ſervants, though, than Puſs ſhe had,
But always thought 'em very bad;

For thieves ſhe found were in her houſe,
And knew 'twas neither Cat or Mouſe,
Their quarters being forc'd to ſhift,
Puſs cours'd them up and down ſo ſwift.
The Maids it muſt be, who could ſteal
Her beef, her mutton, and her veal,
And alſo plates and diſhes crack,
Nay break---and all behind her back.
But they, poor ſouls, though almoſt ſtarv'd,
From what was honeſt never ſwerv'd!
She tax'd them hard, they all deny'd,
And ſaid the Cat they juſt had ſpy'd
The cupboard climb, to make a feaſt
On fiſh undreſs'd, a filthy beaſt;
Yet ſaid, indeed, they thought her ſuch,
That nothing out of reach ſhe'd touch.
The miſtreſs calmly heard this tale,
Which on her did not much prevail,
To think Puſs guilty of ſuch deeds;
But truth to come at, thus proceeds:
Some nice rice milk ſhe mixed up
With poiſon, for the thieves to ſup,
And ſlyly ſet it where ſhe thought
Poor Nan and Sue wou'd ſoon be caught.
But Puſs, in going of her round,
The bowl, with milk full, ſoon ſhe found;
Her faſt not broke, ſhe eat 'till tir'd,
Swell'd much, groan'd more, and then expir'd.
The Miſtreſs, ſoon as light, did wake,
Afraid ſhe'd made a great miſtake,
And coming down, poor Puſs ſhe found
Quite dead and cold upon the ground.
Her grief ſhe now could not ſupport,
So cut the matter very ſhort,
Drank freely off what Puſs had left,
And thus herſelf of life bereft!

MORAL.

MORAL.

Unworthy fav'rites ever bring
Deſtruction on themſelves and King.

Story of Lord D——, *and Mr.* KINGSTON.

THE limits of misfortune and happineſs are contiguous. When we imagine we are the moſt wretched, we are very often at the end of our ſufferings. Conſtancy is a remedy for evils, deſpair aggravates them; and renders them not only inſupportable, but likewiſe irremediable.

Lord D—— was born with a diſpoſition tender, honeſt, and generous: he met and prevented the neceſſities of mankind. It was ſufficient for him to ſuſpect their agonies to induce him to aſſuage them. This manner of employing an opulent fortune, gained him univerſal eſteem; but though he made others happy, he was not happy himſelf. In the midſt of grandeur and opulence he perceived a frightful vacuity in his heart. Friendſhip and love alone could fill it---but both of them had proved treacherous. His miſtreſs had been unfaithful. He had drawn an unhappy wretch from miſery and diſgrace, who appeared worthy of a better condition; he flattered himſelf he had made him his friend---but he repaid him with nothing but ingratitude. This wretch, I might have ſaid this monſter, at laſt injured him in an affair of importance, and, to ſecure his ſucceſs, had blackened the character of his benefactor.

Oppreſſed with this unexpected ſtroke, and a prey to melancholy, to which he was naturally inclined, which was heightened by this perfidy, Lord D—— went one night out of his houſe by a private door. The night was already far advanced. He roved about the ſtreets of London with the pace of precipitation.

The ſolitude and darkneſs of the night increaſed his glooms. Incapable any longer to ſupport the burthen of life, he looked upon death as a comfort and an aſylum. This horrible idea ſuſpended for a ſhort time the agony with which he was agitated. Seduced by the deceitful calm, he compared the condition of his ſoul to that of a ſlave, who is impatient of his chain, and compoſes himſelf at the dawn of day, which he hopes will finiſh his pains by ſhipwreck. He fixed his reſolution in a moment. Diſcovering a ſtreet which led to the river Thames, he went that way, tranſported to find himſelf more eaſy as he advanced.

Deſpair had cauſed a merchant of the ſame city, named Kingſton, to take the ſame way. Lord D—— and the merchant met and joſtled. The agonizing reflections which engroſſed their thoughts, and the darkneſs of the night, prevented their ſeeing one another; they puſhed each other with an emotion of impatience blended with rage. Some moments after, they met again; abſorbed in their reveries, they could not bear a diverſion; and they mutually blamed the embarraſſment they cauſed each other. They ſoon found that they were going the ſame way. The preſence of either cauſed offence. They dreaded each of them a witneſs to their intentions. They each of them endeavoured to avoid the preſence of one another. The ſame idea inſpired both with the ſame deſign. They haſtened their pace to get rid of each other. They went through the ſame ſtreets, made the ſame turnings, and ſtopped at laſt with ſurprize, enraged that they could not get rid of each other. Lord D—— could not conceive why this ſtranger was ſo obſtinate in following him. Kingſton, on his ſide, ſeeing the beams which darted from the embroidered cloaths of his lordſhip, could not imagine that he was engaged in the ſame deſign with himſelf. They mutually looked upon each other as ſpies; they

interrogated

interrogated each other abruptly, and anſwered each other with acrimony.

They were now approaching to London-bridge; Lord D—— ran immediately unto the baluſtrade, and ſeemed to fix upon a place to caſt himſelf from into the Thames; but that place ſeeming not deep enough he walked farther. Kingſton, who had been occupied in ſimilar obſervations, kept near him. They came to the middle of the bridge, and each of them made a full ſtop to get rid of his purſuer. At laſt, longing to be alone, they were exaſperated, when each of them obſerved the other to ſtand ſtill; they thought one another defective in point of manners, and were determined it ſhould not go unpuniſhed.

Lord D—— cried out firſt, with a loud voice, "Why don't you go on?" "I am going no farther."——"Nor I neither," replied his lordſhip. "What deſign brought you here?" "What is that to you," anſwered the merchant, with all the tranſports of deſpair. "Every queſtion you aſk me robs me of a moment---you prolong my life and my agonies; I did not come here to make complaints, but to put an end to them."

As he uttered the laſt words, he made an effort to caſt himſelf into the river. Though Lord D—— was preparing to do the ſame, he ſtopped him. Kingſton ſtruggled in his arms, and threatened and beſought alternately. Lord D—— ſtill kept his hold, and demanded the cauſe of his deſpair. A ſecret ſympathy induced him to enquire into the cauſe: he ſwore that he ſhould be at liberty to put an end to his life, if his reaſon was ſatisfactory; and he did not conceal from him his reſolution to make away with himſelf. Kingſton, ſpent by the vain efforts he had made to diſengage himſelf, and finding ſome relief in the compaſſion that had been ſhewn him, ceaſed to com-

plain of the friendly violence, and related the following narrative, as a juſtification of his reſolution.

" I have fallen from the very boſom of happineſs into the abyſs you now ſee me in. The remembrance of my former happineſs aggravates the miſery of my preſent ſituation. Some unexpected bankruptcies have put my affairs into diſorder, and robbed me of the hopes of ever extricating them: they render me incapable of making my payments good. I was once regarded with honour by the commercial world. My integriry, my honour, my fidelity, my exactneſs, were univerſally eſteemed: I was mentioned as an example to other merchants. But to-morrow my reputation will be loſt; I ſhall involve others in my misfortunes; I ſhall be looked upon as the cauſe of their diſtreſs, and ſhall be the object of public ſcorn.----My Lord, an honeſt man may comfort himſelf in his misfortunes, but who can ſupport ſcorn: to endure is to deſerve it. I have a wife, whom I love, who was the joy and comfort of my life, and a daughter, the only fruit of our marriage, are upon the verge of the moſt frightful miſery. I ſhall not be permitted to ſoften it; hurried away to priſon, and confined in a loathſome dungeon, I ſhall there groan for their misfortunes, and the incapacity of redreſſing them will augment my ruin. Ah tender ſpouſe! Ah unhappy daughter! With what an eye can I ſee thoſe tears fall, which my hands will not be able to wipe off? My Lord, I have left them plunged in the deepeſt ſorrow; I have juſt come from mingling my tears with theirs---I tremble to be forced to leave them---and it was in their arms that I formed the reſolution to put an end to my life: I tore myſelf from them with violence, under the pretext of going in ſearch of new expedients. Their ſobs and groans have ſounded in my ears ever ſince I left them.——Alas! they know not that they have received my laſt embraces.——They never will

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ſee me more! I endeavoured to inſpire them with a hope which I am a ſtranger to; they will give themſelves up to it, perhaps; they enjoy a deluſive tranquility—which will ſoon vaniſh away. I now figure to myſelf their agony and terror, when they ſhall find the time of my return expired. What will become of them when they ſhall hear——! Ah, my Lord, permit me to breathe out theſe obſervations, which tear my ſoul in pieces!"

This narrative filled the ſoul of Lord D—— with compaſſion, tenderneſs, horror and fear. He ſtill held Kingſton in his arms—"No! you ſhall not die," cried he, tranſported with all the tender feelings of humanity. "You ſhall live to comfort a wife who loves you more than life, and to preſerve a daughter who has no other ſupport. I thank heaven that I have met with you. Quit this fatal project. It is no longer adapted to your ſituation. The loſſes of fortune are not irreparable: your miſeries may find a remedy; but mine can find none. Though I have come hither to put an end to my life, I ſhall defer it for one moment, to eſtabliſh your tranquility. I ſhall carry to the grave the ſweet conſolation of having ſtill made one more happy. You ſhall be the laſt. May you cheriſh the idea of my humanity and my fate in your memory. Come! follow me! Your wife and daughter are plunged in woe; it is time to dry up the ſource of their tears; come and receive a ſufficiency to ſatisfy your creditors. My moments are precious. The night is haſtening to an end. I muſt both put an end to your diſtreſs and to my own life before the riſing of the ſun."

Kingſton was diſtracted with aſtoniſhment and joy. He knew not whether he was awake or in a dream. He gazed on his lordſhip with perplexity, uncertain what to determine, alternately agitated by hope and deſpair. Lord D—— in the mean time preſſed him

to follow him, and even dragged him along with him. He led him to his houſe, made him go into his parlour, and opening his pocket-book, put ſeveral bank bills of conſiderable value into his hands. Kingſton could no longer doubt of his happineſs. The hurry of his ſpirits rendered him mute, but even his ſilence ſpake. His heart was diſcharged of an intolerable burthen. Having been pent up and contracted by grief, it ſeemed to expand itſelf and to receive new vigour. He breathed his gratitude, his joy, and that of his family. He fixed his eyes upon his lordſhip's benefaction; his admiration was raiſed to the higheſt pitch; and he deſired to return a part. A ſmall part was ſufficient to ſatisfy his wants. The generous D—— inſiſted upon his keeping the whole, as a reſerve in caſe of future misfortunes.—"Fortune may perſecute you again," ſaid he, "and it may not be in my power to ſuccour you; I cannot employ my riches better; they are not exhauſted; they will ſoon be of no ſervice to me."

This reflection afflicted one of Kingſton's ſenſibility. He prayed Heaven to reſtore peace to this generous ſoul, to prevent the effects of his deſpair, and to make him taſte the happineſs, which he procured to others. He was affrighted at the intention of Lord D——. He ſummoned up courage enough to conjure him to renounce it:---ought ſuch magnanimity, ſuch virtue, ſuch humanity, to appear only one moment longer in the world?—He preſſed him either to accept his preſent again, or to reſolve to live; he was determined to die with him. Lord D—— recalled to his mind his duty, and the idea of his family. Kingſton wept, and fell proſtrate at his feet.

Night diſappearing during this humane conteſt. The ſun was already above the horiſon. Its rays filled Lord D—— with chagrin. He regretted the departure of darkneſs. He accuſed Kingſton with having

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made him loſe the moſt dear, as well as the moſt critical moments. "It ſhall be ſo!" cried the latter, fetching a deep ſigh. "I muſt yield: you will have it ſo, I will not oppoſe your reſolution any longer. But before you put it into execution, grant me a ſecond favour, it will be more dear to me, than all your treaſures. My Lord, I beg of you only a day, a ſingle day: grant me this, and it will be the beſt I have ever ſeen. Give me leave to ſhew my benefactor to my family. Come and receive the thanks of thoſe who owe their all to you. Come and enjoy with me one moment of that life which you have preſerved. Be a witneſs of my happineſs; your preſence will encreaſe it. Permit me to preſent to my wife and daughter him, who has reſtored them a huſband and a father. Come, my Lord, the joy of three hearts which are made happy by your munificence, will be a ſpectacle worthy of your regard."

Lord D—— could not reſiſt his entreaties. The prayers of Kingſton warmed him inſenſibly. He was reconciled to mankind——he applauded himſelf for having found a ſoul ſenſible to gratitude, and ſighed, when he reflected he had found ſuch a one ſo late. In a hurry to reach his grave, he rejoiced nevertheleſs to ſee a virtuous family before he deſcended into it. He followed Mr. Kingſton's ſteps, and enjoined him an inviolable ſilence with reſpect to the irrevocable reſolution which he had formed.

The wife and daughter of Kingſton, Mrs. Betty and Miſs Nancy, had paſſed the night in tears and prayers. This virtuous pair had not ceaſed to implore Heaven for a huſband and a father. They implored it to give him ſtrength to ſuſtain his misfortunes; they dared not aſk for redreſs, nor could they even hope for it. In this ſtate of grief and terror, which receives but little relief from reaſon, they ſaw the day break, without Kingſton's return. New alarms

added

added to the horror of their ſituation. They liſtened with groans---but Kingſton and Lord D—— preſented themſelves to their ſight. They regarded none but Kingſton; and were ſo engroſſed by ſorrow, they did not perceive the ſtranger. They endeavoured to read their deſtiny in Kingſton's face.

Kingſton ruſhed into their arms. "Rejoice," ſaid he, "all our loſſes are repaired! Thank Heaven! Fall dawn with me on your knees to the tutelar deity who has made all three of us happy!——They proſtrated themſelves at the feet of their benefactor. His lordſhip endeavoured to prevent them in vain. He preſented his hands to raiſe them up; they ſeized on them, preſſed them againſt their lips, and bedewed them with tears---their tears extorted thoſe of Lord D——. Nothing was to be heard but confuſed ſounds, inarticulate accents, imperfect words, without coherence; but yet they conveyed to the bottom of the heart, the ſentiments they were intended to expreſs.

"I am indebted to you for my huſband."——

"You have reſtored me my father."——

"Ah my Lord!"

"Generous Lord!"

Lord D——, for the firſt time, felt the value of life. He never experienced moments more tender, more delicious. He congratulated himſelf for having lived long enough to taſte a pleaſure, to which he was a ſtranger. He returned into himſelf with a ſecret ſatisfaction: he found that an honeſt man is happy in procuring the happineſs of others, and is ſufficiently rewarded for his benefits.

Kingſton tore himſelf from his intoxication, and tranſports, to run where he was called by indiſpenſible duties. He declared to all he met, his happy viciſſitude of fortune: he publiſhed to the whole world the benefit he had received, and his own gratitude. Every one eſteemed, lamented, and rejoiced with him.

Longing

Longing to return to his lordſhip, he haſtened to ſettle his affairs. Impatience furniſhed him with wings; he ſoon fled into the boſom of his family. They were preſſing round Lord D——, who imagined that he was tranſported into a new world. Celeſtial ſpirits ſeemed to him to be the inhabitants; he could not help admiring Kingſton and his wife. His eyes were more eſpecially attracted by their daughter: as ſoon as ever they had been fixed upon her, he found it impoſſible to divert them. The tears ſhe had ſhewn rendered her charms more affecting. The lively expreſſions of her gratitude filled his heart with a pleaſing agony. Every thing pleaded, every thing intereſted him in her favour.

No ſight can give a more delicious ſenſation to a liberal mind, than that of virtue, which is revived by its interpoſition. The hours revolved with great rapidity; the whole day appeared to his lordſhip, not longer than a minute; he would have given his life to have prolonged or retarded it. Lord D—— could not think of the fatal moment without agonies. His eyes, which were irradiated by tranquillity, were on a ſudden overcaſt with dimneſs. Kingſton, who kept his eyes fixed upon him, looked upon this ſudden change as the effect of thoſe melancholy ideas, with which his benefactor was poſſeſſed. He knew he had obtained the reſpite of a ſingle day only. The night was approaching. He was upon the point of loſing him for ever. "I ſhall never ſee you any more," ſaid he, with a ſigh! Tears eſcaped from his eyes. They were perceived by Miſs Nancy, his daughter.

His troubled looks were immediately turned towards his lordſhip. As ſhe was ſcarce recovered from the violent ſhock ſhe had felt, ſhe looked upon every thing as an object of terror. Her delicacy called for a ſupport. Lord D—— at that moment reſolved to take

take his leave; ſhe perceived that he was much agitated by the violence he had done to himſelf.

"My father is in tears! My Lord is troubled!" cried ſhe. "Ah ſpeak! Who can explain the meaning of what I now behold?"

"It is too much," interrupted Kingſton! "I cannot ſupport it! The tremendous ſecret weighs me down."

"No! my Lord, I cannot conceal it——Betſy! Nancy! If you knew——. You ſaw me laſt night bent down under the burthen of my misfortunes, and reduced to the moſt horrible diſtreſs.——But you do not know to what exceſſes my evils had tranſported me---Blind deſpair carried me toward the Thames---I was going---Ah Betſy! Ah Nancy!"

The two ladies ſhrieked, trembling at the proſpect of a danger which no longer exiſted. They ruſhed into his arms, and by their eager embraces ſeemed endeavouring to prevent his deſigns.

"You ſhould not ſhed tears on my account," replied Kingſton. "No ſhed them for my Lord. He ſtopped me on the verge of the precipice. But he is determined to drown himſelf. He takes leave of us only to ruſh into the arms of death. O my Lord! my benefactor! Providence ordered you to follow me. She made uſe of you as an inſtrument to preſerve my life: without doubt ſhe has the ſame employment for me.---Betſy! Nancy! join me; unite your prayers to mine. O my Lord! liſten to hearts teeming with acknowledgments and gratitude; 'tis by the name of your benefactions that we conjure you to live; do not blaſt the happineſs which we owe to you; we will renounce it, if you perſiſt in the reſolution of deſtroying yourſelf.---Remember, my Lord, that there ſtill remains ſome good for you to perform: there are ſtill ſome unhappy wretches, who claim

your

your ſuccour; will you abandon them! will you tarniſh your virtues!"

Theſe words were accompanied with tears. Mrs. Kingſton expreſſed in her countenance, all that her huſband had uttered. Nancy, half fainting, conjured him with ſtill greater tenderneſs.

"You are reſolved to die!" ſaid ſhe. "Why did you come here with that horrible reſolution? Ah my Lord, you ſhould have avoided the ſight of us---I ſhould then have bewailed the loſs of a benefactor—— but I ſhould not then have known him.

Lord D—— had kept ſilence. His chagrin grew languid. He thought no longer on the ingratitude of mankind. The image of virtue was before his eyes. A ſweeter ſenſation took place of his melancholy. "Aſſure yourſelves," ſaid he, "I will live. I ought You have made me in love with life. Oh! Kingſton, I have reſtored you to yourſelf; you reſtore me to the dominion of reaſon. You teach me that the friendſhip of a good man compenſates for the hatred of the bad. Heaven, I perceive, determined that we ſhould reciprocally ſave each other. A new proſpect opens before me; your conſent can remove the barrier. Kingſton----Madam, amiable and heavenly family! adopt me for your ſon---Nancy, dear Nancy, the model of innocence and perfection, favour me with your conſent."----He could ſay no more; his eyes, which were fixed upon Nancy; ſeemed to finiſh what he ſuppreſſed, and to ſearch into her ſentiments. She caſt her trembling eyes downward and ſighed! The aſtoniſhment of Kingſton had not left him power to ſpeak. They gazed upon one another. At laſt, he cried, "Shall I believe it? Ah! my Lord, can Nancy contribute to your happineſs? Am I to find a ſon in my benefactor? This honour does not dazzle me---it has too often been much for my equals.----But if beauty does not ſtand in need of high birth; if virtue is ſufficient

ficient to recommend it——I know your advantages, my Lord. Raiſe my daughter to your rank, and receive her from the hands of gratitude."

"She ſurpaſſes all I have done for you," replied Lord D—— in raptures. "Nancy! lovely Nancy, conſent to become my ſpouſe; deign to confirm my happineſs."

Nancy lifted up her eyes to him, filled with all the fires of love. She read in his Lordſhip's eyes, that he underſtood their meaning; and fell bluſhing upon her mother's boſom to conceal her joy and confuſion.

The marriage was celebrated without delay. Kingſton retired from buſineſs. The father and ſon-in-law live together; and at preſent form but one family. They are remarkable for acts of generoſity; and they ſcarcely ever relieve the diſtreſſed withont congratulating each other on account of their preſervation, and without thanking Heaven for having ſaved them from the effect of their deſpair.

FRIENDSHIP: *an Allegory.*

A Rich merchant had an only ſon, whom he moſt tenderly loved; he was educated with the utmoſt care, and nothing was neglected to render him accompliſhed. The education of this youth being nearly finiſhed, he formed a reſolution to travel. "My ſon," ſaid his father to him one day, "conſider that among all the wants of mankind, that of a friend is moſt deſirable. Prodigality may deprive us of our riches, a reverſe of fortune may tumble the moſt powerful into adverſity; but death alone can deprive us of a friend: a friend is an acquiſition that no human power can deprive us of: if you can but find one friend in the courſe of your life, you will find a moſt valuable treaſure. I deſire alſo, my ſon, that you will viſit every part of the world; travelling will furniſh

nish you with the only experience; the more we see of mankind, the better we are qualified to live amongst them. The world is a large volume, that will instruct those who know how to read in it. It is a faithful mirror, that presents to our view those objects that will give us instruction. Go, my son, but remember in your voyage to make the acquisition of a true friend. For this you may sacrifice the most valuable articles you possess."

The young man took leave of his father, and went to visit a country at a small distance from his own; where he continued but a short time, and then returned to his father. "I am amazed, my son," said the old gentleman, "that you should make so speedy a return."—"You commanded me," replied the son, "to go in search of a friend, and I have found fifty of them, who are models of the most perfect friendship."

"My son," replied the merchant, "do not trifle with a name so sacred: do you forget what the Persian poet said upon this occasion? Speak not in praise of your friend till you have proved him. 'Tis an extraordinary character, and most of those who pretend to this sacred title, wear only the mask of friendship: they resemble a cloud that is dispersed by the smallest rays of the sun; they behave to those whom they pretend to esteem, as a toper would to a flask of wine; so long as it contains any of the enchanting liquor, it is embraced with ardour, but as soon as it is empty it is thrown under the table. I am of opinion that the friends, whom you seem to entertain so exalted an opinion of, bear some resemblance to those I have been describing."

"Father," replied the young man, "your suspicions are unjust; th se whom I look upon as my friends, are such as would assist me in my adversity."

"I have lived seventy years," replied the merchant: "I have experienced good and bad fortune,

and

and in ſuch a long courſe of years have hardly been able to find a ſingle friend; how happens it that at your age, and in ſo ſhort a time, you ſhould have found fifty?—Learn of me the knowledge of mankind."

The merchant then killed a ſheep, conveyed it into a bag, and beſmeared his ſon's cloaths with the blood of the animal. Thus every thing being in readineſs for the deſign he had formed, he propoſed to carry it into execution in the night. He took the bag which contained the body of the ſheep, and put it on his ſon's ſhoulders, whom he alſo inſtructed what to ſay upon the occaſion.

The young gentleman knocked at the door of one of his fifty friends, who opened it, and demanded the ſubject of his viſit. "'Tis in misfortunes only," replied the ſon of the merchant, "that we can have an opportunity of proving our friends. I have often told you of the enmity that has ſubſiſted between my family and that of a noble lord. Chance brought us together in a retired place; hatred induced us both to draw our ſwords; I ran him through the body, and he expired at my feet. Fearing that the officers of juſtice ſhould purſue me, I have brought his body, which is in the bag on my ſhoulder, and entreat the favour of you to let me conceal it in your houſe till the clamour ſhall a little ſubſide." "My houſe is ſo ſmall," replied his friend, with an air of chagrin and embarraſſment, "it will hardly contain the living that inhabit it, and therefore I cannot find room for the dead. Beſides," continued he, "every one is acquainted with the hatred that ſubſiſted between you and the nobleman you have killed, and therefore they will readily conclude that you are the author of his death; and as it is publickly known that we are particular friends, they will naturally come to ſearch my houſe: it would do you no ſervice for me to plunge

myſelf

myſelf into your misfortune, and all the good that I can do you is to keep the ſecret."

The young man made ſeveral trials, but to no purpoſe: at length, deſpairing of ſucceſs with this ingrate, he went ſucceſſively to all the fifty perſons, from whoſe friendſhip he promiſed himſelf every thing he ſhould aſk, and fifty times he received the ſame kind of treatment.

"You ſee, my ſon," ſaid the merchant to him, "how little we can rely upon mankind! What is become of the zeal of thoſe whoſe praiſes you have ſo pompouſly dwelt upon? See how they deſert you when you have need of their aſſiſtance. I will now ſhew you the difference between one friend that I have found, and the fifty which you have procured." He then went to the door of the perſon, whom he had mentioned to his ſon as a model of perfect friendſhip, and told him the pretended misfortune that had happened to his ſon. "Oh! thrice happy day," cried the old man, "that furniſhes me with an opportunity of ſhewing my attachment to you; by relying upon me, you may make me happy; my houſe is wholly at your ſervice, and were it at the utmoſt hazard of my life, I could joyfully do any thing to ſerve you."

The merchant, after returning thanks to his friend for theſe generous offers, told him that all he had been relating to him was a tale, invented only as a leſſon for his ſon, to teach him how to diſtinguiſh between a real and a pretended friend.

Dutch Thriftineſs.

IN the iſland of St. Helena, on the ſea ſhore, is a very ſteep promontory, called Ladder-hill, upwards of eight hundred feet in height, upon which a winding road has been made to aſcend it, by which paſſengers may paſs ſafe, though with difficulty. Before

this was made, an extraordinary accident happened to a Dutch ſailor, who having been up into the country, and ſtaying late at night, in returning, it being in the dark, and he much in liquor, miſtook the path then in uſe down this promontory; however, he deſcended through the crags of the rock, from one to the other, till ſuch time as he found his deſcent no longer practicable, when he took up his lodging in a ſmall cleft of the rock, and fell aſleep. It was late in the morning before he awaked, when to his great ſurprize he found himſelf on the brink of a precipice one hundred fathoms deep. He endeavoured to return, but in vain; he could not now being ſober, climb the rocks he had deſcended when drunk. After having paſſed ſome hours in this dreadful ſituation, he perceived ſome boys on the beach, at the foot of the precipice, bathing in the ſea. Hope of relief made him exert his voice to the utmoſt in calling to them, but the diſtance was too great for him to be heard; he then threw one of his ſhoes at them, but it fell ſhort and unperceived.——After this, he threw the other, which was more lucky; for falling at the feet of one of the boys, who was coming out of the water, the youth looked up, and ſaw the poor Dutch-man waving his cap, and making other ſigns of diſtreſs. They made haſte to the town, and telling what they had ſeen, ſeveral people ran to the heighths over head from whence they could ſee the man, but were puzzled how to deliver him. At laſt they got a ſtrong coil of rope, and faſtening one end above, lowered the other down over the place where he ſtood: the ſailor immediately laid hold of it, and with the agility of his profeſſion ſoon gained the ſummit.

As ſoon as he was ſafe, he produced an inſtance of thriftineſs, truly Dutch; he pulled out of his boſom a China punch-bowl, which in all his drunkenneſs and diſtreſs, he had preſerved ſafe and unbroken,

chuſing

chuſing rather to part with his ſhoes than his bowl, th ugh the one, had he thrown it away, muſt have alarmed the boys by its noiſe; while the other, had not one of them fallen in ſight, might have left him to ſtarve among the rocks.

Hiſtory of FAZULLA, *the young Merchant of Tatta.*

WE are told of an avaricious Merchant, who lived in the city of Tatta, whoſe only ſon Fazulla ſowed the gold of his care in the ſtreets of prodigality, and the jewels of advice among the briers and thorns of contempt; at length repeated crimes on repeated indulgencies, provoked the harſh blow of chaſtiſement.

The youth, in the warmth of juvenile pride, gave the reins to unruly paſſion, and perverſely over-leaping all bounds of reſtraint, commenced with precipitate madneſs to travel the wilderneſs of folly and toil, throwing the houſe of his father behind him. On the journey of the firſt day, he was taught by convincing experience, that the bow of his ſtrength was too weak to wing the arrow of his intention to his aim, and that his force had forſaken him, at a diſtance imagination had left behind, which conſtrained him to take up his abode in the trunk of a hollow tree.

When the ſwift meaſurer of the heavenly way had alighted at the ſtate of the weſt, and the moon, fair bride of night, riſing from her crimſon bed, tricked up her beams in a liquid mirror, adjacent to his place of retirement, he beheld three milk-white doves deſcending in playful circles from the ſky, and alighting by the brink of the pool, where they were immediately transformed to pirries.

He gazed with delight and amazement, while, with the fingers of delicacy, they drew their robes, like the webs of morning from the dew-bathed lillies of ſpring,

and laid them on the flowry bank, inviſible by their exquiſite fineneſs; now the ſound of their ſilver tongues vibrated in the nerves of delight, and attention ſtarted from ear to eye, and eye to ear, he was raviſhed with inexpreſſible pleaſure.

Ah! ſiſters of the ſky, ſays one, what imprudence! what frolic is this? Suppoſe now our raiment ſhould be ſtole; thus, by loſing our ſpiritual power, we might wander, like the daughters of men, through theſe horrible woods for ever.----What a happy man muſt he be, ſaid the ſecond, who could catch us in this plight, and get poſſeſſion of my precious bracelet containing the pariſpatter *(a)*;---and my ring of direction, ſaid the third: But come, there is no fear in this place of retirement; ſo ſaying, they ſtript off their jewels, and laying them by their garments on the brink, playfully plunged into the flood, which was illuminated by the beams of their beauty; dark to their ſnowy waiſts, the ſimbol wreaths of their hair flowed down; the waters poured over their heaving boſoms, gently agitated by the breezes; the proud moon was jealous of their charms, and ſhrowded herſelf in a bluſh behind the veil of a cloud. Fazulla, embracing his fortune, ſtole ſlily towards the bank, and bundling up their cloaths and jewels, retired, like a fox into his hole. In a ſhort time, the pirries, having bathed, prepared to apparel their beauties; but, finding themſelves robbed of their garments, they ſet up a mournful ſcream, ſearching with anxiety around, till they diſcovered the thief trembling for fear of diſcovery.

Ha! daring ſon of impiety, ſays one, well mayeſt thou tremble, indeed! well mayeſt thou fear our reſentment!---doſt thou preſume to hope for mercy for this affront on the children of light? This inſtant return our jewels and apparel, or ſee yourſelf transform-

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(a) The Philoſopher's ſtone.

ed to a monkey. Fazulla, being bold and obſtinate, did not permit himſelf to be intimidated by their threats, telling them they might do their worſt, for that he was determined to hold faſt by his fortune.

Now prayers ſucceeded to menaces; but the youth could, by no means, be brought to turn the face of conſent to their requeſt, but building upon their humility, ſtood firm to his own purpoſe, telling them, he would return home in the morning, whither, if they pleaſed, they might alſo follow him.

When they found their intreaties in vain, they began to reproach each other, and weeping ſat down on the graſs, begging, ſince he was determined on their ruin, he might conduct them home under the veil of night, that public ignominy and ſhame might not be added to the number of their heavy misfortunes.

To this propoſal he gladly conſented, and invigorated by his lucky adventure, he returned the ſame night to Tatta, and ſecreted them in his own apartment; there he ſupplied them with robes and jewels, the moſt coſtly that gold could purchaſe, but took care to conceal their own beyond the reach of their moſt ſtrict inquiry.

Now he purchaſed a palace for their reception, and ordered others to be built of ſuch magnificence as exceeded the wealth of nations. Here gold was converted to ſuch ignoble purpoſes, that the beholders miſtook it for braſs, and the moſt precious jewels were ſo proſtituted, as not to be diſtinguiſhed from glaſs. His houſe became the reſidence of pleaſure, and his table the reſort of the great; his days were conſumed in feſtivity, and his nights in the enjoyment of love. Curioſity obſerved him with aſtoniſhment; greatneſs with envy and jealouſy; and poverty with obſequiouſneſs and hope; but the ſecret of his riches remained in the boſom of concealment, nor could the artful

endearments of the pirties discover the repository of his wealth.

Intoxicated at length by his fortune, he permitted the wind of flattery to blow up the bubble of vanity in the cup of fermenting conceit; when one day, in gaiety of heart, elevated by mirth, wit and wine, he rehearsed the particulars of his story in the ears of his astonished friends; but as yet in his own opinion, he was safe with respect to his acquisitions; he rolled in the luxuries of wealth, and slumbered in the arms of security.

When his story became noised abroad, it at length reached the ears of his father, who valued the blessings of gold superior to the blessings of heaven; tho' he had before been enriched beyond measure by the boundless liberality of his son, which, like a river overflowing its banks, dispensed wealth to all around him, yet he coveted the possession of the whole, and feared the prodigality of his son would melt down the mountains into the ocean.

Fazulla now found his generosity was undervalued in the sight of his friends, and that if he converted the Indus into gold, he could not quench the avarice of his father, gratify the importunity of his kindred, nor be permitted to drink in peace of the stream which his fortune afforded.

Now the old man was ransacking his brain for a scheme to get possession of his treasure, and having in vain tried to obtain the secret from his son, he fell at length upon a successful expedient. For this purpose he instructed his dog to trace out the footsteps of inquiry, and going one day for some money, Fazulla having none in readiness, intreated him to stay a moment. Walking then into a private garden, the son entered a thick grove, where, taking the stone out of a hole of a tree, rubbed over some bars of lead, and returned with them in ingots to his father.

The

The old man received them with joy, but, pretending fatigue, reclined on a ſopha till Fazulla retired. The dog in the mean time was put upon the ſcent of inquiry; according he led him to the tree, where, having for ſome time ſearched, he found the ſtone in a place imperceptible to any eye, but the piercing eye of avarice.

When he obtained the poſſeſſion of the jewel, his mind ran on robbers and thieves, ſo that, like a murderer, he ſkulked from every eye, and particularly from the eyes of his ſon, for he dreaded his ring of direction; as reſt was therefore baniſhed from his ſoul, till he ſecured it beyond danger, after revolving a thouſand projects in his mind, he determined at length to ſwallow it, and affected his deſperate purpoſe.

When Fazulla, like an eagle returning to his neſt, found it plundered of the hope of his being, in the diſtraction of rage and deſpair, he exalted the voice of ſorrow; but recollecting his ring of direction, he drew it from its place of concealment, and conjured its magical power to lead him to his pariſpatter.

Immediately the little compaſs in the ring moved in a proper direction, and conducted him ſtep by ſtep to the houſe of his own father. He entered, and beheld him walking about with all the geſtures of agonizing pain; but he had no ſooner ſet his eyes on Fazulla, than he ſtarted as from a ſpectre, and retired.

As the needle ſtill pointed towards him, Fazulla was now aſſured that his father had robbed him of his jewel; but conſidering his preſent indiſpoſition, the impropriety of the time kept him ſilent, and he returned to his own abode.

The old man, in this ſeaſon of affliction, was adding to the pains of the body the more inſupportable pains of the mind; for his fears of being deprived of his jewel pierced deeper than the fears of death; to rid himſelf therefore of theſe apprehenſions, by draw-

ing the ring on the finger of his commands, he employed an eminent thief, with the promiſe of a large reward, if he could by any means poſſible procure it.

The thief, who was dexterous in his profeſſion, in the habit of a female ſlave, found admiſſion with ſome confectionary into the Haram; he there pretended an epileptic fit, and was laid down in the ſervants apartment, whence, ſilently ſtealing in the night, he found his way to Fazulla's bed-chamber, where he attempted to pull off the ring, but finding it impoſſible to be accompliſhed, without waking him, which would only be waking danger, he thought of ſecuring his ſleep, but dreaded the reſentment of his father.

Finding, therefore, he muſt either abandon his enterprize, or embrace violence, he at laſt reſolved to cut off his hand; laying it out therefore upon the edge of the bed, he drew a ſabre that hung in the room, ſevered with one blow from his body, then fixing his hook to the window, deſcended in a moment into the ſtreet.

When the thief found himſelf poſſeſſed of the ring he began to examine its value, and obſerving that, to all appearance, it bore no proportion to the proffered reward, on conſidering the character of the Merchant, and the earneſtneſs he expreſſed to obtain it, he concluded for certain, that it poſſeſſed ſome quality, which he was not yet able to divine.

Inſtead of carrying it, therefore, to the Merchant, he concealed it in his own houſe; but in the morning, the news of the robbery reſounded through every ſtreet, and at the ſame time the virtue of the ring became a ſubject for the tattle of curioſity.

When the thief found himſelf poſſeſſed of ſuch a treaſure, he became anxious about the manner of ſecuring it, more eſpecially as he was known to the Merchant, whoſe death he revolved in his mind.

Another

Another thief, who had heard the ſtory, viewed him with a ſuſpicious eye, and as his houſe was contiguous to the place of impalement, he mounted one of the pales in the night, the better to obſerve his motions. Accordingly, about the hour of midnight, he perceived him coming out of the houſe, and advancing towards the pales, where, carefully obſerving all round him, he began to dig a hole in the earth, at the foot of one of them, and there depoſited a ſmall caſket. When he had covered it up with care, he caſt round the eyes of ſuſpicion, and counting the malefactors on the pales, found one above the uſual number.

Alarmed at this circumſtance, he began to examine them ſtrictly, but finding none more ſuſpicious than another, he determined to inſure his ſafety: he drew a knife from his pocket, and began to ſcarify their faces, which the thief bore in his turn with patience. When he had removed every ſhadow of doubt, he retired to his houſe in ſecurity, while the other deſcended from the pale, and robbed him of all his hopes.

But while the Merchant remained alive, the thief ſtill conſidered himſelf in the way of danger; ſo finding no reſt on his bed, he aroſe with bloody intention to aſſaſſinate him in his own houſe, while he pretended to carry him the ring.

When he gained admiſſion into the houſe, he beheld but the ſigns of grief, and heard but the groans of affliction.——Here the old man was expiring on his bed, with his ſon in a flood of tears, and his family in ſorrowful expectation; for phyſic could adminiſter no relief, and the gates of mercy were ſhut againſt avarice. The bane he had ſwallowed from his own hand, rent his bowels with convulſive ſpaſms, while every pore wept tears of agony, and every nerve ſhot the arrows of woe, till at laſt he reſigned his unwilling breath, and was committed to the grave, the

houſe

houſe of oblivion, which yet denied a ſanctuary to his bones.

Fazulla, after the death of his father, was greatly aſtoniſhed on ſearching his effects in vain for the ſtone; and the next day relating the ſtory in the ears of his Phyſician, the truth, like lightning, ſtruck his mind; but he veiled his thoughts from Fazulla's eyes, and that night determined, with impious hand, to invade the ſacred manſions of the dead, and accordingly prepared for this deed of darkneſs.

In the mean time, the thief miſſing his ring, which he now thought ſecure by the death of the Merchant, began to count the impaled malefactors, when finding one of them had walked off in the night, he concluded for certain ſome of his own fraternity had baffled all his former precaution; aſſured, however, that he muſt bear the mark, he ſet out to explore the haunts of villainy, where at laſt he found one of his iniquitous brethren, with his head bound up, extended at full length on a couch.—Aſſured he had ſtumbled on the mark of deſign, he began to lengthen the tongue of accuſation, till the other, intimidated, made a full confeſſion; but propoſed, at the ſame time, that they ſhould ſhare the profits, and ſet out that night in queſt of the ineſtimable jewel, which fame had reported to be ſtolen from Fazulla.

Accordingly, when night had ſpread her ſable pall over the face of ſlumbering nature, theſe ſworn brothers in the way of perdition, invoking the ſpirit of the magic ring, from ſtreet to ſtreet were conducted along to an aged grove without the ſuburbs, where the deceaſed Merchant was interred.

Here the Phyſician, who had been digging the grave, alarmed by the ſound of approaching feet, fell down proſtrate on the dead man's coffin, and, trembling, dreaded the eye of diſcovery. In the mean time the thieves with haſty pace advancing, tumbled precipitately

cipitately over him, when, bellowing with the bruiſes he ſuſtained by their fall, they concluded themſelves ready to be devoured by the devil, and roaring like bears caught in a trap, endeavoured to lengthen the paces of flight, but, in the fright and confuſion, dropped the ring, not conſidering their loſs till they had fled to ſome diſtance.

When they found themſelves purſued, but by their own ſhadows, they at laſt put their feet againſt the rock of courage, and each reproaching the other's cowardice, they again reſolved to turn their face to danger. Accordingly advancing towards the place, they cautiouſly crept into the grave, where they beheld the Phyſician at his horrid work, and heard him exclaim; "Happieſt of mortals, now haſt thou found the partiſpatter." Immediately, like wolves, they leapt on their defenceleſs prey with their weapons, and robbing him of life, and his ſhort lived hope, buried him in the grave which his hands had prepared, and with the ſtone and the ring, on the wings of gladneſs, turned their joyful faces to their own habitations.

Now when they had prepared to divide the ſpoil, a great conteſt aroſe between them. The firſt inſiſted that as he had ſtolen the ring, with ſo much hazard of his own life, that he was undoubtedly entitled to have his choice, and ſo laid claim to the pariſpatter.

The other maintained, that as they were both thieves, he had an equal right by ſtealing it a ſecond time, as he could claim from ſtealing it firſt; and as they had ſolemnly agreed to ſhare the profits, propoſed the conteſt ſhould be decided by lot. But it was again objected to this method, that if either was poſſeſſed of the ring of direction, the other could never reſt in ſecurity, that it was therefore adviſeable to deſtroy the ring, and then divide the ſtone between them.

This

This having met with ready conſent, they immediately broke the ring in pieces, and then with a hammer ſplitting the ſtone, the charm diſſolved, and left them to folly.

The moment they obſerved ſome metals they had transformed for experiment, again tranſmuted to their priſtine ſtate, and found the ſtone deprived of its chemical virtue, they quarrelled with rage of diſappointment; when the Cutwals guard hearing the diſpute, committed them both to the horrors of a dungeon, and next day the Cady, by their own evidences, condemned them both to the death of impalement.

Fazulla now, to his ſurprize and ſorrow, beheld all the metals he had changed to gold, again reſume their former qualities; while the city, which had been enriched by his overflowing wealth, perceiving the cheat with their own ruin, wept over the droſs of their vain imaginations; but quickly rage ſucceeded deſpair, and aſſembling in mobs in every ſtreet, they trod order and authority under their feet, and rolling along like torrents from the mountains, threatened his houſe with immediate deſolation.

Now trembling, he ſtood like ſome poor ſheep overtaken by the flood on a dry ſpot, which is faſt overflowed by the riſing waters. But in this ſituation of perplexity and terror, he fortunately recollected the robes of the pirries, and running in haſte to the place of concealment, he immediately cloathed himſelf in one of their veils, and became inviſible to the eyes of mortals.

When the mob had ſearched every corner of privacy, and found the prey had eſcaped their fury, the hands of ſpoil were lengthened on his effects, and the flames thrown into his lofty palaces; the Haram only eſcaping their rage, which ſtood in the center of a ſpacious garden.

When

When the waves had ſubſided on the ocean of ſtrife, Fazulla reſumed his native likeneſs; but now diveſted of all his wealth, like a merchant eſcaped from a ſhip-wrecked fortune, he ſcarce took pleaſure in his own exiſtence.

Finding it dangerous to reſide in Tatta, he determined to remove to the city of Sind, as he ſtill was poſſeſſed of the ſecret of inviſibility, he ſoon found means of acquiring wealth, by rendering himſelf preſent on the moſt private occaſion.

One night exploring a certain Zinnana, he beheld a fair Caſhmirian beauty, ſlumbering alone upon the pillow of enchantment, cloathed with nothing but her virgin charms. A while he permitted his eyes to wander over the paradiſe of love, and was loſt in exceſs of amazement, like Adam in the morning of creation.

Though nature took fire at the enchanting ſight, yet a certain veneration, like that inſpired by the preſence of an angel, checked by the rude hand of violence, permitting him only to apply his trembling lips to the perfumed roſes of the cheek of beauty.

Awakened by this ſoft ſalutation, ſhe unveiled the eyes of brightneſs, which at once dazzled and ſurprized, as when unexpected light ſhines, in the eyes of a thief of darkneſs.

Frightened upon ſeeing a ſtranger in her apartment, ſhe began to ſcream for help. Fazulla, fearing diſcovery, was preparing to caſt his robe of inviſibility around him; but conſidering that he could at any time make his eſcape, he bowed his forehead to the carpet of humility, and thus preſented his amorous addreſs:

"Faireſt of the daughters of Nature, permit not fear or diſturbance to invade theſe abodes of peace and ſafety. In me behold a votary of love, who hath come with a bleeding heart, to ſacrifice it on the altar of thy beauties."

"Who

"Who art thou," replied the Lady, "who thus preſumed to defile the ſacred habitation of Chaſtity; advancing the foot of raſhneſs over the brink of the precipice of danger? How didſt thou climb theſe inacceſſible walls, guarded by the ſleepleſs eyes of jealouſy, or unbolt the doors of my reputation?"

"Love is poſſeſſed of wings," ſaid Fazulla, "and the weakeſt animal on the deſart, by him inſpired, dareth the paw of the lion. What is danger or death to me, but ſuch as I fear from your reſentment? Let me die like a martyr in your arms."

By ſuch paſſionate addreſſes as theſe, the Lady was melted to favour, and opportunity concurring with deſire, they fanned the mutual flames, like moths tranſported with the light, till they burnt the wings of pleaſure.

Now the ruddy morning, peeping through the gliding caſements, gave the unwelcome ſignal of ſeparation, when Fazulla, like a ſpirit, retired to ſkulk in the tomb of anxiety, till the hour of darkneſs again ſhould permit him to haunt his treaſure.

In the mean time the Lady all day was tortured by the ſpirit of curioſity, for ſhe perceived not by what means he had retired, nor how he found acceſs into her apartment. Sometimes ſhe thought it was a dream, and ſometimes a palpable reality; ſo that her mind, like a boat between wind and tide, was toſſed on the wave of uncertainty.

Determined, however, that night to light up the lamp of truth, or abjure all further communication, ſhe waited with the impatience of a bride, trembling for the approaching moment.

When evening with roſy ſkirts retired through the gardens of the weſt, and ſhut behind her the doors of day, Fazulla, on the wings of impatience, flew to the chambers of love where he found his beloved, in a looſe robe of white taffeta, reclining on a crimſon

ſopha,

ſopha, with a thin veil of ſilver gauze, half diſcloſing her enchanting beauties.

Fazulla, fired at the ſight, ran forward with intent to embrace her, extending the arms of extaſy, when, puſhing him back with a ſevere frown, ſhe commanded him inſtantly to retire from her preſence.

As when an eager ſportſman, warm in the chace, plunges headlong into a deceitful pool, covered over with the flowry lotus, ſo Fazulla from the brink of pleaſure, fell back into the chilling water of ſorrow and diſappointment; but having raiſed his head from this flood of aſtoniſhment, he fell proſtrate on the ground at her feet, and conjured her by all their former joys to unfold the cruel cauſe of her reſentment.

After much vain intreaty, ſhe at laſt condeſcended to open her lips, ſaying, "To cohabit with the devil is a wickedneſs I reflect on with fear, deteſtation, and horror; begone, therefore, thou wicked demon. O merciful and juſt Heaven, protect me from this fiend's deluſion!"

Fazulla, by all the power of argument, endeavoured to convince her of her miſtake, and that he was certainly of the human ſpecies; but ſhe ſhut the door of Reaſon in the face of Conviction, and barred it with invincible Obſtinacy. When he found himſelf reduced to the neceſſity of either relinquiſhing the pleaſures of her love, which were now become the elements of his exiſtence, or revealing the ſecret of his acceſs, he fooliſhly choſe the laſt, and in the ears of attention and ſurprize, related the particulars of his ſtory.

As love had alſo taken poſſeſſion of the Lady's heart, ſhe became violently jealous of the pirries, and the better to execute her ſcheme, unravelled his heart by degrees, till ſhe diſcovered the bottom of the clue, and where he had concealed their garments.

Poſſeſſed

Poſſeſſed of this ineſtimable ſecret, ſhe unbarred the gates of bliſs, and permitted him to rove, without controul, through the flowery meads of pleaſure, till ſleep, from ſatiety of enjoyments, cloſed his eyes in reſt, and afflicted preſcient nature with dreams of her approaching diſſolution.

When ſhe found him in the ſhrowd of inſenſibility, ſhe cautiouſly roſe from his ſide, and caſting the robe around her, flew with the quickneſs of thought to the abode of her ſleeping lover, where exploring the apartment of the pirries, ſhe awoke them from their morning dreams, told them ſhe came to their relief, directed them to the place of their raiment, and preſſed their immediate departure.

The pirries, rejoicing in this diſcovery, immediately ſeized their garments, but one of them miſſing her own, diſcovered it in the hands of the Lady, whence ſnatching it with uncommon dexterity, they flew into their native air, leaving her naked in her lover's houſe, without the power of returning undiſcovered, but eaſed of the fear of rivals.

In the mean time, Fazulla, in the morning found himſelf in the pit of deſpair, curſing his babbling tongue that betrayed him in an evil hour, while he drank of the water of life, and revelled in the garden of pleaſure.

Here the moment of his diſcovery proved fatal, for he fell by the jealous rage of her family.---This ſtory may teach us the value of ſecreſy.

Account of a MIDWIFE, *who was roaſted alive with ſixteen wild cats.*

IN the year 1673, an eminent midwife in *Paris* had, by her great ſkill in her profeſſion, obtained the favours of the greater part of the inhabitants—the genteeler of whom ſhe delivered at their own houſes; but

but for thoſe, whom either inclination, or a worſe cauſe, made it neceſſary to be ſecretly delivered, ſhe had provided accommodations at her own houſe, to which great numbers reſorted.

It happened that a gentleman who lived next door to the midwife had obſerved, that although many pregnant women went to be delivered at her houſe, yet very few children were brought out, and his ſuſpicions of foul play towards the infants increaſing daily; he at length conſulted with ſome of his neighbours, who joined him in requeſting a warrant from a magiſtrate to ſearch for ſome plate, which they pretended to have loſt. In order however not to alarm the midwife, they began their ſham ſearch, at the diſtance of nine or ten houſes from hers.

When they came however to her abode, ſhe affected the utmoſt unconcern, deſiring the gentlemen not to hurry themſelves, but to proceed in their ſearch, with all poſſible circumſpection,——they did ſo——and on their coming to the neceſſary-houſe, they put down a hook, which they had brought with them on purpoſe, and took up the body of a child newly deſtroyed.——They continued the ſearch, till they had found no leſs than ſixty-two children——ſome of whom were in great meaſure decayed, but many of them appeared to have been depoſited in that place within a very few weeks at the moſt.

The conſequence of this was——that the midwife was immediately apprehended, and brought to trial, and condemned on the fulleſt evidence, beſides her own confeſſion. She was ſentenced to be executed in the following manner, and ſhe ſuffered accordingly on the 28th day of May, 1673.

"A gibbet was erected, under which a fire was made, and the priſoner being brought to the place of execution, was hung up in a large iron cage, in which were alſo placed ſixteen wild cats, which had been

catched in the woods for the purpoſe.——When the heat of the fire became too great to be endured with patience, the cats flew upon the woman, as the cauſe of the intenſe pain they felt.—In about fifteen minutes they had pulled out her intrails, though ſhe continued yet alive, and ſenſible, imploring, as the greateſt favour, an immediate death from the hands of ſome charitable ſpectator. No one however dared to afford her the leaſt aſſiſtance; and ſhe continued in this wretched ſituation for the ſpace of thirty-five minutes, and then expired in unſpeakable torture.

At the time of her death, twelve of the cats were expired, and the other four were all dead in leſs than two minutes afterwards.

However cruel this execution may appear with regard to the poor animals, it certainly cannot be thought too ſevere a puniſhment for ſuch a monſter of iniquity, as could calmly proceed in acquiring a fortune by the deliberate murder of ſuch numbers of unoffending harmleſs innocents. And if a method of executing murderers, in a manner ſomewhat ſimilar to this was adopted in England, perhaps the horrid crime of murder might not ſo frequently diſgrace the annals of the preſent times.

The above ſtory is ſtrictly true in every part of it, and as well known in Paris, as thoſe of Mary Blandy, or Eliz. Jefferies in England.

The NIGHTINGALE; *a Fable.*

A Nightingale, in her retreat,
Exerted all her native powers;
Compos'd and ſung plaintively ſweet,
To charm the ſilent hours.
A hungry Hawk in ambuſh lay,
And ſeiz'd the hapleſs ſongſter for his prey;

The

The warbling victim tried in vain,
To melt a cruel tyrant's heart;
Proof againſt every moving ſtrain,
Of nature, or of art.
"Charmer," ſaid he, "I wait too long,
"Hawks require food, more ſolid than a ſong."
Then with a villain's ſmile he ſtruck
The loveliest tenant of the wood;
In her poor heart his beak he ſtruck,
Rioting in her vital blood:
Liſten ye fair ones to my lay,
Your ways with trembling caution mark!
How many virgins fall a prey,
To ſome baſe murderer in the dark.
Your youth, your tears, your ſpotleſs fame,
Add to the brutal fire freſh fuel;
Deaf to compaſſion, dead to ſhame,
Selfiſhneſs is always cruel.
Ye candid ſouls whoſe pulſes beat,
With no diſtemper'd ſelfiſh heat;
View here again a wretch oppreſs'd,
And heaven and earth in vain implor'd;
Robb'd of his property and reſt,
Devour'd by a rapacious Lord,
When Avarice and Power meet,
Woe to the humble Neighbour of the Great.

An ÆNIGMATICAL *repreſentation of a real* ENTERTAINMENT.

FIRST COURSE.

Melancholy Soup with
crooked *Sarah*.

Roaſted Furrows. Cutlets undreſs'd.

Pride reverſed
in a Pye.

The divine Part of a Man boiled.

A Blockhead hashed.

The Leg of a Corn-cutter boiled, with Diamond Weights.

SECOND COURSE.

Venus's Guides.

A *Dutch* Prince in a Pudding.

An unruly Member garnished with perpetual Motion.

Move *Jack*.

Part of the Zodiack buttered.

The first Temptation in a small Blast of Wind.

The Grand Seignor's Dominions larded.

DESERT.

The Loss of a Wife, and the Gain of a Husband, in Jelly.

Cow's Provender with half Gooseberries.

Some hundred Thousands.

Sorrowful Apples with bad Wives round them.

Busy Bodies.

Couples.

The Reward of a Soldier in Cream.

LIQUORS.

The Joke of a Puppet-Shew made with Torture.

A Bottle of Hyp.

A Bottle of Bag.

A Bottle of *Torbay*.

A Bottle of Hill-Top.

A soldier's Habitation with a pretty Girl in it.

A Side Grace Cup, of lamentable Cloathing.

Account

Account of a horned Man.

FRANCIS TROVILLOU, was a man of a middle ſtature, a full body, bald, except in the hinder part of the head, which had a few hairs upon it; his temper was moroſe, and his demeanour altogether ruſtic: he was born in a little village called Mezieres, and bred up in the woods amongſt the charcoal men. About the ſeventh year of his age he began to have a ſwelling in his forehead; ſo that about the ſeventeenth year of his age he had a horn there as big as a man's finger end, which afterwards did admit of that growth and increaſe, that when he came to be thirty-five years old, this horn had both the bigneſs and reſemblance of a ram's horn. It grew upon the midſt of his forehead, and then bended backward as far as the coronal future, where the other end of it did ſometimes ſo ſtick in the ſkin, that to avoid much pain he was conſtrained to cut off ſome part of the end of it: whether this horn had its root in the ſkin or forehead, I know not; but probably being of that weight and bigneſs, it grew from the ſkull itſelf; nor am I certain whether this man had any of thoſe teeth which were called grinders. For two months t gether the man was expoſed as a ſhow in Paris, where (ſaith Urſtitius) in the year 1598, I, in company with Dr. Jacobus Faeſchius, the public profeſſor and Baſil, and Mr. Joannes Eckenſtenius, did ſee and handle this horn. From Paris he was carried to Orleance, where (as I am informed) he died ſoon after. *Fabrit. obſ. chirurg. cent.* 2. *obſ.* 25. *p.* 104.

Story of Captain NEVILL.

DURING the laſt French war but one, a young Engliſh officer, whom we ſhall here call Nevill,

that had been wounded in a ſkirmiſh, was brought into Bruſſels, and billeted upon a gentleman, where he was taken the moſt humane and tender care of: the gentleman was a married man, and his wife and daughters were in the houſe; the youngeſt of the latter was a profeſſed nun, though, on account of the troubles in the country, as is uſually the caſe, ſhe had left her convent, and come to reſide at her father's.

This young lady was of an order, which particularly obliges to the care and attendance of the ſick; in conſequence of which, ſhe conſtantly adminiſtered to Nevill, who was not only wounded, but had an after attack of a violent fever: ſhe gave him all his phyſic, ſometimes even dreſſed his wound, which was in his breaſt; and not unfrequently ſat up with him whole nights, to relieve his nurſe and other attendants. As he grew better, the care of Elvira, for ſo we ſhall call this lady, ſlackened; but it began to make greater impreſſions upon the patient; he ſaw every day his beautiful attendant, and ſoon grew ſenſible of her charms; and by the time he was able to walk about his chamber, his paſſion grew ſo violent, that he could no longer contain it within the bounds of ſecrecy.

At length, her ſervice being no longer neceſſary, the lady appeared no more. Every perſon that came to him, he enquired of for Elvira; but ſtill received vague, though civil anſwers: a week paſſed; he ſaw nothing of her. He was no longer able to bear the deprivation of the ſight of her. Nevill was the eldeſt ſon of an opulent family in the weſt of England, in preſent poſſeſſion of an handſome fortune, and in expectation of a very conſiderable one; he found that Elvira's father was, with regard to fortune, but in a middling way; he reſolved to diſcloſe himſelf without further delay; accordingly, having one morning deſired to ſee him in his chamber, after having return-

ed

ed him many thanks for the great civilities and friendſhip he had experienced in his houſe, he began to give ſome account of his fortune and connections; he told him he ſhould never enjoy his life (which under God, he owed to his care) nor his poſſeſſions, with half the ſatisfaction, as when both were devoted to the happineſs of one belonging to his kind hoſt and benefactor.

In ſhort, the fair Elvira had cured him of the wounds given him by his enemies; but had left a wound behind, which none but herſelf could cure; he was willing to make what ſettlement the father pleaſed, or to enter into any other term of agreement, and begged, inſtantly, his permiſſion to make her his wife. "Sir, it is impoſſible:" "Good God! how ſo?" "My daughter is a nun." The fatal conſequence of this reply was immediate; young Nevill was ſeized with a deep melancholy, which was ſucceeded by a relapſe of his fever, that ſoon reduced him to extremity. The regiment he belonged to, of which his uncle was colonel, was now at Bruſſels: he had every help brought to his nephew that could be procured: but as the principal root of his diſorder was inquietude of mind, for want of the beloved object, the phyſicians declared that there was no hope for their patient, unleſs his former fair doctor returned to help him. The young lady was not yet gone back to her nunnery, but at an uncle's near the city, where ſhe had aſſumed the habit of her order: her father, with much intreaty, was prevailed on to ſuffer her ſecond attendance upon young Nevill, and ſhe came in her habit. His delirium, before very violent, abated almoſt immediately: the next day, he was totally come to himſelf, and he every day got ſtrength: but, alas! as he recovered, the unfortunate Elvira began to ſhew the ſymptoms of the diſtemper, which the

had catched from him; in a word, ſhe ſickened, and the third day expired.

During her illneſs, Nevill could never be drawn from her door; except when by abſolute force he was obliged to go to bed. However, when he heard of her death, which could not be concealed from him, he received it without any extraordinary emotions; only he entreated to ſee the corpſe, and at length obtained permiſſion; he ſtood at the foot of the bed, gazing upon it for a few minutes, then left the room, and from that time, never exchanged a word with any one, either in queſtion or anſwer, but always imagined he was in company with, and talking to the deceaſed. When he went to meals, he always ſet a chair for her, and a plate; helped her, drank to her; and, on retiring, ſeemed to wait for her at the door till ſhe was ready to follow him: nay, when he was alone, people have liſtened, and heard him hold long converſations, ſometimes grave, and ſometimes merry; and when any one came into the room, he was immediately ſilent, unleſs he ſpoke to the object of his idea.

In this melancholy way he was brought by his uncle to England, where he remained ſome months in his father's houſe, without appearing to have the leaſt remembrance of any one; when ſpoke to, he only anſwered with a down look and a deep ſigh: he performed yet all the functions of nature, like a man in perfect health; and his family took every care to indulge his fancy, ſeeing there was no cure for his diſtemper.

About this time, a young lady came to viſit at a neighbouring gentleman's, who was a very ſtriking likeneſs of Elvira: young Nevill's uncle ſaw her, and thought ſhe might be of ſome uſe in reſtoring his nephew to his ſenſes; for this purpoſe, having brought her to his father's, they provided her a dreſs, like the

religious

religious habit that Elvira wore; and one night while young Nevill ſat at ſupper, ſhe came and ſeated herſelf oppoſite to him: he looked earneſtly at her for a moment, then turning to the chair at his ſide, he cried, "There are two!" and expired.

The VICARS: *a Tale.*

A Small neat houſe, and little ſpot of ground,
Where herbs and fruits, and kitchen ſtuffs were found,
The humble Vicar of North Wilford bleſt—
Small was his living, but his heart at reſt;
Unſeen, unblam'd, he paſs'd his time away,
He walk'd, he wrote, he ſmok'd, or mus'd all day.
Thro' all the year no anxious care he knew,
Except at Eaſter, when he claim'd his due;
And then the ſurly ruſtic's churliſh pride
His well-earn'd fees diſputed or deny'd:
The Vicar, ſtill preferring want to ſtrife,
Gave up his fees to lead a peaceful life.
His garden once in penſive mood he ſought,
His pipe attended as a friend to thought;
And as the whiffs in eddies round him play'd,
A neighbouring Vicar ent'ring he ſurvey'd;
One like himſelf, a downright honeſt prieſt,
Whoſe love of peace his ſcanty dues decreas'd.
Suppoſe the little ceremonies done,
And all the rites of lighting pipes begun;
Suppoſe the whiffs in ſober ſort flew round,
And both in muſing very deeply drown'd;
For ſo it was, until the firſt good man
Fetch'd a deep wh-i-ff, and anxiouſly began:
"Would God, my friend, his goodneſs had aſſign'd
"Some lot more ſuited to my feeling mind;
"Leſs though my income, if from torture free,
"Content would well ſupply that loſs to me;

"For

" For all the pence, the little dues I glean,
" Raiſe but my ſcorn, my pity, or my ſpleen.
" I'll tell thee, friend: juſt now a neighbour came,
" Pale want diffus'd o'er all his meagre frame;
" Five-pence the ſum, he gave a ſhilling o'er,
" Then ſhook his head, and wiſh'd he could do more.
" I turn'd aſide, nor could from tears refrain,
" 'Twas death to take it, to refuſe was vain!
" Such gentle manners more afflict the mind
" Than the rough uſage of the baſer kind.
" Juſt e'er I came, a ruſtic braggart elf,
" Proud of his purſe, and glorying in his pelf,
" Came, bold demanding, 'And what's now to pay?
" What claims the prieſt that we maintain to pray?'
" The account he gave me of his ſtock, I knew
" Was half curtail'd, and ſcarce one number true;
" Howe'er, my ſilence favour'd the deceit,
" Being fond of quiet, I conceal'd the cheat.
" But when the ſmall, the half demand I made,
" He bully'd, ſwore, and damn'd the preaching trade;
" All God's good houſhold with irreverence curſt,
" And me, with foul abuſe, as far the worſt!
" Thou know'ſt, my friend, what agonizing ſmart
" Such brutal outrage gives a teader heart."
" Too well, alas! too fatally I know
" From whence thoſe conſecrated evils flow;
" From tythes, my friend, the Clergy's woes ariſe,
" They mar religion, nay, they rob the ſkies.
" That God, our monarch's ever gracious hand
" In this would deign to bleſs this wretched land!
" Would God, that tythes like taxes might be paid,
" Affix the rev'nue by ſome ſtatute made;
" How then would bleſt Religion rear her head,
" And Virtue thro' each village kindly ſpread!
" With what felicity each ſoul be bleſt,
" How happy then pariſhioner and prieſt!"

Thus

Thus at true grievances the Prieſts repin'd,
And, with their own, ſpoke all their brethren's mind;
While toll'd the bell, unto the church ſlow move,
Six virgins, bearing one that dy'd for love.
Their grave debate was ſilenc'd by the bell,
The Vicars roſe and kindly took farewell.
The firſt his ſermon ſeeks, and haſtes away
The laſt ſad duties to the dead to pay;
While ſlow his brother on his eaſy pad
Pack'd home, full grave and ruminating ſad.

A curious and momentous Calculation.

THE difference between riſing every morning at ſix, and at eight, in the courſe of 40 years, (ſuppoſing a perſon to go to bed at the ſame times he otherwiſe would) amounts to 29,200 hours, or 3 years, 121 days, 16 hours; which will afford 8 hours a day, for exactly 10 years: ſo that 'tis juſt the ſame as if 10 years of life (a weighty conſideration) were to be added; in which we might command 8 hours every day, for the cultivation of our own minds in knowledge and virtue, or the diſpatch of other buſineſs.

N. B. This calculation is made, without regard to the Biſſextile, which reduces it to 3 years, 111 days, 16 hours; and at 8 hours a day, will want about a month of 10 years.

A ſingular Paſſage in the Life of the Sultan AMROU.

AMROU, Sultan of Gazna, engaging in a war with Iſmael Samain, Sultan of Kariſma, had the misfortune to be taken priſoner.

The conqueror ungenerouſly confined his captive in a citadel, where he was cloſely and narrowly guarded. The Prince, overwhelmed with fatigue,

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and not having eat any thing all day, begged of his guards that they would give him ſome nouriſhment. They brought him a morſel of meat, to be dreſſed at the ſame fire at which the unfortunate Sultan warmed himſelf. Whilſt Amrou waited impatiently till his ſupper was ready, a little dog, not leſs famiſhed than himſelf, happened to ſnatch away the pittance, and immediatel, made off. The Sultan, whoſe firſt movement was to purſue the thief, ſoon perceiving himſelf ſtopped by a chain, laughed very heartily. The guards, whoſe compaſſion he had excited, haſtened to repair the loſs, and enquired, with aſtoniſhment, what could excite his laughter in the deplorable ſituation he was in? "I cannot forbear laughing at myſelf," replied the Prince. "This morning in giving orders for battle, I ſaw marching in my train three hundred aſſes, which the grand maſter of the houſhold aſſured me were hardly ſufficient to carry my kitchen, and this night I have ſeen a little dog carry it all in his jaws."

INDUSTRY, TRAVEL, PLEASURE *and* IDLENESS *an Allegory.*

AS Induſtry was going abroad early to his labour, and climbing, without impatience, a lofty mountain over which he was obliged to paſs, he eſpied on the ſummit a beautiful nymph employed in ſearching for uncommon flowers, and often viewing with great attention the wide extended ſcenes that were ſtretched around her. Her eyes were piercing as the beams of the evening ſtar, with a certain twinkling wantonneſs in them that heightened the reſemblance. Her features were irregular, yet not leſs pleaſing than thoſe of a more perfect beauty. She had a moſt agreeable wildneſs in her air, dreſs, and countenance, and ſomething ſo ſpeakingly inquiſitive in the

the latter, that almoſt every feature ſeemed to aſk a queſtion. Upon the approach of Induſtry ſhe fell into immediate diſcourſe with him, and aſked him, almoſt in the ſame breath, who he was, where he lived, whither he was going, and what there was in the neighbourhood worth ſeeing. Induſtry, ever accuſtomed to make the beſt of his time, anſwered the laſt queſtion firſt. He told her that there was nothing ſo well worth ſeeing as a beautiful pleaſure-houſe in the adjacent wood, and offered to conduct her to it. The nymph, whoſe name was Curioſity, eagerly followed him, and by the numberleſs queſtions ſhe put to him as they paſſed, diſcovered an inſatiable thirſt of knowledge. Induſtry, who liked the humour of the nymph, failed not to make every poſſible advantage of this, and though ſhe found herſelf deceived in ſome points, when ſhe arrived at the wood, yet ſhe was gratified in ſo many others that ſhe could not help loving her deceiver, and yielding to every propoſal of his that might tend to her information. In conſequence of this converſation Curioſity in due time brought forth a ſon, who, by order from the ſylvan deities, was named Travel. He was favoured by all the gods, and in his youth was frequently inſtructed by them in viſions. When he grew up he diſcovered in his temper his mother's thirſt of knowledge, and his father's activity; he never ſtaid longer in any place than, bee-like, to collect the ſweets that he found there. Pleaſure and Wiſdom were his companions, and his attendants were Plenty and Variety. By obſerving the manners and cuſtoms of various nations, he became polite and unprejudiced; and by comparing their laws, and the various modes of worſhip and government, he learned to be juſt, politic, and to ſerve the gods acceptably. In a large city, where much was to be ſeen, he had recourſe for accommodations to the houſe of a gentleman who was known to take

a plea-

a pleaſure in entertaining travellers. The name of this perſon was Idleneſs. He was a corpulent good-natured man. If he had but proviſion for the day, and a companion to laugh away the hours, which were otherwiſe tedious to him, he was contented. He never interfered in the intereſt of others, nor felt the emotions of either friendſhip or enmity. He would not, on any account, go two furlongs from his own door, but uſed to ſay, pleaſure and trouble were ſuch inveterate enemies, that they could not poſſibly meet on the ſame occaſion; he was much entertained with the converſation of Travel, and conceiving a deſign to diſſuade him from rambling any more, that he might keep him with him. "My friend," ſaid Idleneſs, "I am amazed at your ſtrange diſpoſition. Who, like you, would for ever wander about, in ſearch of pleaſure, and not ſtand ſtill a moment to enjoy it? Why will you expoſe yourſelf to perpetual dangers, and needleſs difficulties, and undergo abroad a thouſand inconveniencies which you would never meet with at home? Why ſhould you, who are a free man, ſubmit to the arbitrary government of a ſea captain, more boiſterous than the element on which he commands; or to the no leſs abſolute ſway of an itinerant coachman?" "Truce with your queries," ſaid Travel, "till I have propoſed an equal number, and then, if you pleaſe, we will balance the account. How can you waſte your time, and impair your health by refuſing to give your body and mind that due exerciſe nature ſo loudly calls for? How can you confine that arduous curioſity, implanted in the ſoul to urge you on to unbounded knowledge, within the narrow limits of one city or province? Are you really ſo deſtitute of courage, as to be over-awed by viſionary dangers, and trivial inconveniencies?" Here ended the diſpute; Idleneſs would not be at the pains to ſeek further arguments, nor, if he had, would Travel have ſtaid to hear them.

The TRAVELLER: *an Oriental Apologue.*

AS ſoon as I perceived the firſt ſparkling fires of day, I mounted my aſs and took the path which leads to the high road of Babylon; ſcarce was I there when in raptures I exclaimed, O how my eyes do wander with joy o'er yon green hills! with what delicious perfumes theſe flow'ry meadows embalm the air! I am in a beautiful avenue, my aſs and I may retire under the ſhade of its trees when it ſhall ſeem good unto us. How ſerene the heavens! how fine a day! how pure the air I breathe! well mounted as I am, I ſhall arrive before duſk.

Whilſt I uttered theſe words, beſotted with joy, I looked kindly down upon my aſs, and gently ſtroking him. From afar I ſee a troop of men and women mounted upon beautiful camels, with a ſerious and diſdainful air, all cloathed in long purple robes, with belts and golden fringes, interſperſed with precious ſtones. Their camels ſoon came up with me; I was dazzled with their ſplendor, and humbled by their grandeur. Alas! all my endeavours to ſtretch myſelf, ſerved only to make me appear more ridiculouſly vain. Mine eyes did meaſure them inceſſantly; ſcarce did my head reach their ancles; I was ſorely vexed from the bottom of my ſoul, nevertheleſs I did not give over following them.

Then did I wiſh that my aſs could raiſe himſelf as high as the higheſt of camels, and fain would I have ſeen his long ears peep o'er their lofty heads. I continually incited him by my cries, I preſſed him with my heels and my halter; and tho' he quickened his pace, yet ſix of his ſteps ſcarce equalled one of the camel's. In ſhort we loſt ſight of them, and I all hopes of overtaking them. What difference, cried I, between their lot and mine? Why are they not in my place? or why am I not in theirs? Wretch that I

am!

am! I ſadly journey on alone upon the vileſt and the ſloweſt of animals; they on the contrary . . . happy they! . . . . would bluſh to have me in their train; ſo deſpicable am I in their eyes!

Buſied in theſe reflections, and loſt in thought, my aſs finding I no longer preſſed him, ſlackened his pace and preſently ſtopped to feed upon the thiſtles. The graſs was goodly; it ſeemed to invite him to reſt; ſo he laid him down: I fell; and like unto him who from a profound ſleep awaketh in ſurpriſe, ſo was I on a ſudden awakened from my meditations.

As ſoon as I got up, the voice of thouſands came buzzing in my ears; I looked around, and behold a troop ſtill more numerous than the former. Theſe were mounted as poorly as myſelf; their linen tunicks the ſame as mine; their manners ſeemed familiar; I addreſt the neareſt. Do your utmoſt, ſays I, you will never be able, mounted as you are, to overtake thoſe who are a-head of you.

Let us alone, ſays he, for that; the madmen! they riſk their lives; and for what? to arrive a few minutes before us. We are all going to Babylon, an hour ſooner or later, in linen tunick, or purple robes, on an aſs, or a camel, what matters it, when one is arrived? Nay, upon the road, ſo you knew how to amuſe yourſelf? You for example; what would have become of you had you been mounted on a camel? Your fall, ſays he, would have been fatal. I ſighed and had nothing to reply.

Then, looking behind me, how great was my ſurprize to ſee men, women, and children, following us a-foot, ſome ſinging, others ſkipping on the tender graſs; their poor backs bowed under their burdens. Then, cried I, tranſported beyond myſelf, they go to Babylon as well as I: and is it they who rejoice? And is it I who am ſad? When on a ſudden my op-

preſſed

preſſed heart became light, and I felt a gentle joy flow within my veins.

Ere we got in, we overtook the firſt party; their camels had thrown them, their long purple robes, their belts, and gold fringes interſperſed with diamonds, were all covered with mud. Then, ye powerful of the earth; even then it was I perceived the littleneſs of human grandeur; but the juſt eſtimation I made of it, did not render me inſenſible to the misfortunes of others.

Account of a Man who never pulled off his Cloaths for the Space of forty Years.

JOHN BAKER of Channing, in the county of Kent, labourer, was born in the year 1700, and died in the year 1756. At the age of ſixteen he was diſappointed in a love affair, on which he vowed, never to pull off his cloaths, or to go to bed, till he ſhould regain the affections of his miſtreſs—which vow he religiouſly kept, and continued to ſleep on the ground, or in a chair (without pulling off his cloaths) the remaining forty years of his life.

When his cloaths were much worn, he uſed to have them ſewed or patched by any good-natured neighbour, who would take the trouble to do it; and at the time of his deceaſe his coat was at leaſt of twenty-ſeven different colours, from the patches, which from time to time, had been ſewn on it.

This ſtory the inhabitants of Channing well know to be true.

Account of a DWARF, *whoſe height did not exceed 23 inches.*

ON the 2d of October 1694, at Wimble, a ſmall village in the ſouth of Devonſhire, Martha

Barnſley, the daughter of William Barnſley, bricklayer, was delivered of a female baſtard child, which was ſo extremely ſmall as to be put into a pint drinking mug, which was covered over with the palm of the midwife's hand.

The growth of this girl was agreeable to her original diminutiveneſs: for in the year 1716, ſhe being then twenty-two years of age, her height did not exceed twenty-three inches without her ſhoes, yet ſhe was in all reſpects well proportioned, and it is ſuppoſed ſhe was at the age of nineteen, of conſtitution ſufficient to have born children. She died in 1717, and lies buried in the church-yard of Wimble.

It is ſuppoſed that the extreme ſmallneſs of this child aroſe from the mother's dread of ſhame from bringing a baſtard into the world, which had induced her to lace herſelf ſo tight, during her pregnancy, as to produce the above-mentioned phænomenon, by compreſſing the child in the womb.

The CAT *and the* MONKEY: *a Fable.*

A Monkey every day was chid,
For tricks and miſchief which he did:
The things he loſt, the cups he broke,
Were often times a ſerious joke;
And then the creature look'd ſo ſly,
That folks might either laugh or cry.
A Cat, one day, with friendly zeal,
Told Pug ſhe had liſten'd *en famille*;
Aggriev'd to tell him, ſhe had found
A ſentiment was gaining ground,
Which was not much in his behalf;
And, tho' he often made them laugh,
He ſhould be cautious, and take care,
Or elſe he'd ſurely go too far.

All

All which was anſwer'd with grimace,
Mimicking Puſs's formal face.
The Cat, who many a hint had gave,
Now read a lecture ſtill more grave:
" Truſt me, dear Pug, and do not rally,
" You'll find one day ſome ſprightly ſally,
" Some joke, that is perhaps well-meant,
" May not be conſtru'd innocent:
" Conſider ev'ry trick that's play'd,
" How many enemies are made;
" You'll find at laſt you'll loſe your praiſe,
" And ev'ry one a tale will raiſe;
" And all the miſchiefs others do,
" Thro' malice will be laid on you."
Exactly as the Cat foretold,
His maſter cry'd, " I'll have him ſold;
" He's only fit to go to fairs,
" And play his tricks, and dance with bears."
And now the monkey ſeem'd to ſmoke
The rod Puſs ſaid was laid in ſoke.
Yet he ſuſpected it too late;
Who can prevent approaching fate?
Soon as he ſaw the meddling ſtranger
Untie his bag, he knew his danger,
And look'd at Puſs: " Alas! too late,
" My friend," he cry'd, " I ſee the fate
" That you ſo often have foretold;
" The bargain's ſtruck, and I am ſold."
" You who ſo oft miſtook before,"
Says Puſs, " you may miſtake once more:
" Perhaps the bargain is not ſtruck,
" Plead with your maſter---try your luck."
" No," cries the monkey, " friend, I'll trudge:
" Shou'd I grow grave as graveſt judge,
" The trick and gambols I have play'd,
" So many enemies have made,

" Whenever cups fall off the ſhelf,
" Pug muſt then juſtify himſelf;
" And ſooner ſhall the china join,
" Than they believe the fault not mine.
" I find, my friend, that wit's like fire,
" All own its merit, and admire;
" But yet they dread it while they praiſe,
" Extinguiſhing thro' fear the blaze."

An Oddity in his way; or Hiſtory of Old NOBS.

THE youth of Kentiſh-town laugh when old Nobs is named: their fathers have been uſed to tell them of the man whoſe motions were as regular as thoſe of the ſhadows of the dial, denoting the time without error; and their fathers ſaw him.

From generation to generation, at the certain hour, paſſed by the venerable figure. They remember him labouring the ſteep hill in the dog-days, and running up the aſcent in winter: in froſts cloſe buttoned, and bidding the bleak north defiance; and in the autumn open to the waiſt; his hat, wig, cane and ſword, the load of one hand, while the other beat as an oar againſt the air, damp, duſty, and bald headed.

His walk was to the ſummit of the hill; he reach'd it in a certain period, and he had (ſo he boaſted) counted forty thouſand times how many ſteps carried him through the journey. At Highgate he drank deliberately his ſingle bottle; looked down for an hour upon the miſerable ſcene of ſmoak and dirt which he had quitted; and as ſoon as he had done, moſt peaceably returned to it again.

He had by heart every turning of the path; and, without looking down, knew where he was to lift his foot over the rough pebble; he could meaſure the ground blindfold; had his eyes been taken from him, you would no more have been able to lead him five

ſteps

ſteps beyond the inn-door, than to whip the laborious animal that drew up the water at the inn, through one circle more after the bucket reached the ſurface.

Every body knew old Nobs upon the road, and Nobs knew every body: he returned the civilities of a ſtranger; but the oldeſt acquaintance could not prevail with him to turn in at his door, or refreſh himſelf; he knew he could go through his walk, and he was not ſure he could add to it: but he would never allow himſelf to drink till he had earned his bottle by the ſtipulated labour.

As all the inhabitants of the road were acquainted with the old man, there was not one among them all but loved him. The inoffenſive is the character with which men paſs beſt of all through life; and that was his moſt eminently. He had his ſingularities, but they diverted: and it ſeemed a common loſs when death ſtopped his journies.

As he knew every ſtep, he knew where every houſe was placed, and if he went by with his eyes ſhut, as was often the caſe when the duſt offended him, he never miſtook the inhabitant. He had his phraſe for every one at the more notable places; and he adapted it to the perſon; nothing in all this gave offence; for 'twas underſtood as 'twas meant, only to ſay Nobs is going by you.

Skim was the word as he went paſt the dairy, and the roſy milkmaids would reply, "Mr. Nobs, a good walk to you." As he paſſed the ſhed in which the taylor laboured, Top *(a)* was pronounced with a good natured nod, and the return was, "Ha, old true-penny." At the tall-tree-houſe he ſtruck upon the dog-kennel, and bow-wow called out the ſurly inhabitants in anſwer: he took his leave of the place with the clerk's houſe, and he ſung out a good Amen as he paſſed by it. 'Twas the only word of two ſyllables

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(a) A technical term ſignifying, ſnuff the candle.

he employed; but he had always, good man, a reſpect for things ſacred.

Rain only could keep him within doors: but even there he walked to Highgate. He had laid his two chambers into one for this purpoſe; and he regularly ſet out at his hour for the journey: as he knew how many ſteps carried him to the place, he walked backward and forward the length of the double room, till he had numbered out the quantity, and ſo gone thro' the journey.

You'll ſay, but he wanted the reliefs at his ſeveral ſtages? not at all. When he had counted as many ſteps as reached to the dairy, he cried Skim; when he had meaſured as many more as brought him to the ſhed, he repeated Top, as regularly as if the croſs-legg'd brotherhood were there to anſwer him; he cry'd Bow-wow at the Tall-tree-place, and flapp'd the table by way of dog-kennel; and when he had ſung out his Amen, he would ſhrug up his ſhoulders with joy that he approached the end of his journey.

He would turn ſhort every imaginary corner; at the bridge he ſnuffed up the imaginary hay-field: he would lift up his feet higher as he climbed the place of the hill; and a couple of chairs were ſet back to back in a corner of the room over which he clambered once for every ſtile in the foot-way.

He would puff when he arrived at the ſtation of his inn: he would open his bottle; fancy he ſaw the extended proſpect from one of his windows; and when he had reſted and refreſhed his hour, he meaſured back the deſcent and plain, reclimbed every hill, and paid his ſtationary compliments.

You who laugh at the whimſical old fellow, change your merriment to imitation! By ſo much exerciſe taken daily, he kept alive to ninety-ſix. A father to the afflicted, a patron to the indigent. He was the beſt, and the beſt natured man of his time. Chearful

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in himſelf, he loved to ſee chearfulneſs in others; and what he loved he would purchaſe. He would give to the miſerable, the price you pay a miſtreſs, and with their ſmiles he bought their prayers. Let the marble hide the duſt, this remembrance of the ſoul will live for ever.

Thoſe who only ſaw him, loved the man for his ſingularity: thoſe who wanted his aſſiſtance, reverenced him for his virtue. In the courſe of ſo long a life, no man could ſay, he had injured him even in thought. Upon the income of an inconſiderable place in the revenue, he, during almoſt ſixty years, diſtinguiſhed himſelf by the name of Charitable Nobs; and at the end of it, he left to his family a little portion. He left them with it that ineſtimable inheritance, the bleſſings which flow from Heaven upon the children of the merciful to many generations.

The affecting Hiſtory of LUCY MIRANDA.

IN the year 1759, Gabbot, governor of the fort of the Holy Ghoſt in Paraguay, having occaſion to embark for Spain, appointed Numez de Lara to ſucceed him in his abſence, but left no more than one hundred and twenty men with a ſmall quantity of proviſions, in a place where the Spaniards had few certain friends, and an immenſe number of declared enemies.

Lara, on this ſide, ſeeing himſelf ſurrounded by nations, from whom he could expect no reſpect, but in proportion as he could demand it, thought the beſt thing he could do, would be to gain over thoſe neareſt to him, which were the Timbuez; and he ſucceeded pretty well in the attempt. But his ſucceſs ſoon proved fatal to him, in a manner he little dream'd of. Mangora, cacique of the Timbuez, happening in

one of the frequent viſits he paid Lara, to ſee Lucy Miranda, a Spaniſh lady, and wife of Sebaſtian Hurtado, one of the principal officers of the fort, became deeply enamoured with her. It was not long before ſhe perceived it; and, knowing what ſhe had to fear from a barbarian, with whom it was ſo much the commander's intereſt to live upon good terms, ſhe did all that lay in her power not to be ſeen any more by him, and to guard againſt any violence or ſurprize. Mangora, on his ſide, thinking, if he could but get her to his habitation, he might diſpoſe of her as he pleaſed, often invited Hurtado to come and ſee him, and bring his wife along with him. But Hurtado as often begged to be excuſed, alledging, that he could not abſent himſelf from the fort, without the commander's leave; and that he was ſure he ſhould never be able to obtain it.

Such an anſwer as this was enough to let the cacique ſee, that to ſucceed in his deſigns upon the wife, he muſt firſt get rid of the huſband. While he was therefore conſidering ways and means to do it, he got intelligence, that the huſband had been detached with another officer, called Ruiz Moſchera, and fifty ſoldiers, to collect proviſions. Looking upon this therefore as a favourable opportunity, ſince it not only removed the huſband, but weakened the garriſon, by which the wife might expect to be protected, he poſted four thouſand picked men in a marſh in the neighbourhood of the fort, and ſet out for it, with thirty others loaded with refreſhments. On his arrival at the gates of it, he ſent word to Lara, that, hearing how much he was in want of proviſions, he was come with enough to ſerve him, till the return of the convoy. Lara received the cacique with the greateſt demonſtrations of gratitude, and inſiſted upon entertaining him and his followers. This was what Mangora had expected; and had accordingly given his men inſtruc-

inſtructions how to behave, and had appointed ſignals for thoſe he had poſted in the marſh.

The entertainment began with a great deal of chearfulneſs on both ſides, and laſted till the night was far advanced; when the Spaniards riſing to break up, Mangora gave ſome of his attendants the ſignal for what he had before-hand directed; which was, to ſet fire to the magazines of the fort, as ſoon as the Spaniards would be retired. This was accordingly done without the Spaniards having the leaſt ſuſpicion of the matter. The officers were ſcarce compoſed to reſt, when moſt of them being alarmed by the ſoldiers crying out fire! fire! and jumping out of bed to extinguiſh it, the Indians ſeized the opportunity of diſpatching them. The reſt were killed in their ſleep; and the four thouſand men poſted in the marſh, having been let into the fort, it was immediately filled with ſlaughter and confuſion. The governor, tho' wounded, having eſpied the treacherous cacique, made up to him, and ran him through the body; but being more intent upon ſatisfying his revenge, than conſulting his ſafety, he continued ſo long venting his now uſeleſs fury on the dead body of the enemy, that the Indians had time to intercept his flight, and immediately diſpatched him.

There now remained no living ſoul in the fort, but the unfortunate Miranda, the innocent cauſe of ſo bloody a tragedy; four other women, and as many little children, who were all tied and brought before Siripa, the brother and ſucceſſor of the late cacique. This barbarian, at the ſight of Miranda, conceived the ſame paſſion for her, that had proved ſo fatal to his brother, and ordered her to be unbound, relinquiſhing to his attendants all the other priſoners. He then told her, ſhe muſt not conſider herſelf as a ſlave in his houſe; and that it would even be her own fault, if ſhe did not become the miſtreſs of it; and

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that he hoped ſhe had ſenſe enough to prefer to an indigent forlorn huſband, the head of a powerful nation, who would take pleaſure in ſubmitting to her, himſelf, and all his ſubjects. Miranda might well expect, that, by refuſing his offers ſhe ſhould expoſe herſelf, at beſt, to a perpetual and cruel ſlavery; but her virtue got the better of every other conſideration. She even gave Siripa the anſwer ſhe thought was moſt likely to exaſperate him, in hopes his love might change into fury, and a ſpeedy death put her innocence and honour beyond the reach of his brutal inclinations.

But in this ſhe was greatly miſtaken: her refuſals ſerved only to increaſe the eſteem Siripa had conceived for her, and heightened his paſſion, which he ſtill flattered himſelf he would be at laſt able to gratify. He continued, therefore, to treat her with a great deal of lenity, and even ſhewed her more civility and reſpect, than could be well expected from a barbarian. But this moderation and gentleneſs ſerved only to make her more ſenſible of the danger ſhe was expoſed to. In the mean time, Hurtado, being returned with his convoy, was greatly ſurpriſed to find nothing but a heap of aſhes, where he had left Gabot's tower. The firſt thing he did was to enquire what was become of his wife; and being informed that ſhe was with the cacique of Timbuez, he immediately ſet out to look for her, without conſidering what danger he thereby fruitleſsly expoſed himſelf to. Siripa, at the ſight of a man, who was the ſole object of all Miranda's affections, could no longer contain himſelf, but ordered him to be tied to a tree, and there ſhot to death with arrows.

His attendants were preparing to obey him, when Miranda, drowned in tears, threw herſelf at the tyrant's feet, to obtain the life of her huſband; and, ſuch is the power of paſſionate affection, it calmed

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the violent ſtorm, which it had but a little before excited in the heart of a barbarian. Hurtado was unbound; he was even, ſometimes, permitted to ſee his wife. But the cacique, at the ſame time he thus indulged them, gave them to underſtand, that they muſt not, on pain of death, attempt to go any further lengths. It is therefore probable, he only meant this indulgence as a ſnare to obtain a pretext for recalling the conditional reprieve he had granted to Hurtado, who ſoon ſupplied him with one. A few days after, Siripa's wife came to inform him, that Miranda was lain down with her huſband; the barbarian immediately ran to examine the truth of the report with his own eyes; and, in the firſt emotion of his paſſion, more to the ſatisfaction of his wife's jealouſy than his own, he condemned Miranda to the flames, and Hurtado to the kind of death he had but lately eſcaped. The ſentence was immediately executed, and this faithful pair expired in ſight of each other, full of ſentiments worthy of their virtues.

The FISHERMAN: *a Tale.*

TOM BANKS by native induſtry was taught
The various arts how fiſhes might be caught;
Sometimes with trembling reed and ſingle hair,
And bait conceal'd, he'd for their death prepare,
With melancholy thoughts and downcaſt eyes,
Expecting 'till deceit had gain'd its prize.
Sometimes in riv'let quick and water clear,
They'd meet a fate more gen'rous from his ſpear.
To baſkets oft he'd pliant oziers turn,
Where they might entrance find, but no return.
His net well pois'd with lead he'd ſometimes throw,
Encircling thus his captives all below.

But

But when he would a quick deſtruction make,
And from afar much larger booty take,
He'd thro' the ſtream, where moſt deſcending, ſet
From ſide to ſide his ſtrong capacious net;
And then his ruſtic crew with mighty poles
Would drive his prey out from their ouzy holes.
And ſo purſue 'em down the rolling flood,
Gaſping for breath, and almoſt choak'd with mud;
Till they of farther paſſage quite bereft,
Were in the maſh with gills entangl'd left.
Trot, who liv'd down the ſtream, ne'er thought his beer
Was good, unleſs he had his water clear;
He goes to Banks, and thus begins his tale:
" Lord! if you knew but how the people rail:
" They cannot boil, nor waſh, nor rinſe they ſay,
" With water ſometimes ink and ſometimes whey,
" According as you meet with mud or clay.
" Beſides, my wife this ſix months could not brew,
" And now the blame of this all's laid on you;
" For it will be a diſmal thing to think,
" How we old Trots muſt live and have no drink:
" Therefore, I pray, ſome other method take
" Of fiſhing, were it only for our ſake."
Says Banks, " I'm ſorry it ſhould be my lot,
" Ever to diſoblige my goſſip Trot:
" Yet 't'en't my fault; but ſo 'tis fortune tries one,
" To make his meat become his neighbour's poiſon;
" And ſo we pray for winds upon this coaſt,
" By which on t'other natives may be loſt.
" Therefore in patience reſt, tho' I proceed;
" There's no ill nature in the caſe, but need.
" Tho' for your uſe the water will not ſerve,
" I'd rather you ſhou'd choak than I ſhould ſtarve."

The following may be read backward or forward.

JOY, mirth, triumphs, I do defy,
Deſtroy me death, fain would I die:
Forlorn am I, love is exil'd,
Scorn ſmiles thereat; hope is beguil'd:
Men baniſh'd bliſs, in woe muſt dwell,
Then joy, mirth, triumph, all farewell.

The LEGEND *of* POVERTY.

A Merchant of tolerable good ſenſe, not altogether unimproved by education, found, in ſpite of all the care he could take, his affairs in ſuch a ſituation, as rendered it neceſſary for him to quit a kind of life which he was ſo little qualified to lead, and to ſtrike out ſome better way of employing the ſmall reſidue of his effects. Such conſiderations have commonly a ſtrong effect on the imagination, ſo as to fill it with gloomy ideas, and even to prejudice the intellectual faculties themſelves. Such was the caſe of this diſtreſſed trader, who having unſucceſsfully wearied himſelf in ſeeking to eſcape from a labyrinth of thought, at laſt ſunk, without perceiving it, into a profound ſleep; nature affording that remedy which he wanted both the will and the power to apply.

His eyes were ſcarce cloſed, when, to his ſtill waking mind, the image of a robuſt woman above the common ſize, preſented itſelf; ſhe was dreſſed in a home-ſpun ſtuff; and, though her head attire was far from being fine, yet it was extremely white, and very agreeably diſpoſed; the reſt of her garb was ſuitable, and her air had ſomething in it frank and noble, though nothing that ſeemed to flow from the boarding-ſchool; a modeſt chearfulneſs ſhone in her countenance, and altogether ſhe looked like ſome per-

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ſon of diſtinction cloathed after a ruſtic manner. The merchant, whoſe thoughts, even in his ſleep, ran on the ſituation he was in, ſaw this phantom with ſurprize, and haſtily demanded who ſhe was, and how ſhe came to treſpaſs upon his privacy.

At this the dame ſeemed to ſmile, and after a low reverence proceeded thus: My name is POVERTY; do not be ſtartled; your being afraid is the only thing that can make me hurt you: calm your thoughts; recollect your ſpirits; and when you are cool enough to hear me, I will go on. Having ſaid this, ſhe pauſed a while, and then reſumed her diſcourſe.

My parents, ſaid ſhe, were Chance and Indiſcretion; they made a match almoſt without thinking of it; and though my mother went her full time, I came into the world when I was little expected. She had been married more than once before, and I have a great many ſiſters by different fathers, and moſt of them have made their huſbands very unhappy: this doubtleſs you have heard, and therefore, not without reaſon, ſeemed confounded at the ſight of me; but have patience, you are the perſon I have choſen for my ſpouſe, there is no being rid of me, and yet if you will take my advice, we may live together happily enough.

The poor man ſigh'd, but could not ſpeak; he contented himſelf with bowing, and beckoning to her to proceed. Moſt of my ſiſters, continued ſhe, have never been able to get the love of their huſbands; they converſed with them as it were by force, and the conſequeuce of ſuch untoward embraces hath, in moſt of them been the bringing into the world a boy black as a Negro, called Shame, alike hated by father and mother; and yet ſticking ſo cloſe to them, as never to be diſowned.

A few of my elder ſiſters have been more happy; ſome of them have matched with country clergymen,

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ſettled for the moſt part either in Wales, or in the North, and the men being diſcreet they have lived in peace and comfort: moſt of their iſſue have been females, ſuch as Temperance, Frugality, and Piety. With theſe maids when they grow up to maturity, their parents paſſed their time very agreeably; returning the world's favours in kind, and pitying, with good reaſon, ſuch as pitied them.

Others have married ſoldiers, and had no reaſon to repent their choice: you muſt have heard of Fortitude, the ſon of one of my ſiſters by a martial ſpouſe. It has been often remarked, that the greateſt heroes have been beſt ſatisfied with ladies of our family; and if I am rightly informed, you may read in ſome Greek and Latin authors, of ſeveral men of great diſtinction, who would not be divorced from us when they might; and, if I miſtake not, Epaminondas and Cincinnatus were of that number.

By this time I hope you are convinced that being joined to me will not neceſſarily render you miſerable; but I ſhall go further ſtill, and ſhew you that though I have no fortune to boaſt of, yet the poſſeſſion of me is attended with ſome bleſſings; for inſtance, from the moment we are united, you will ſee no flatterers; a look of mine obliges a falſe friend to unmaſk himſelf, and doubles the tenderneſs of him who is really ſo. Idle viſitors and goſſips alſo very rarely come where I am; ſo that if I bring you no good company, I ſhall at leaſt keep you from the plague of bad, which, the corruption of the preſent age conſidered, is of no ſmall conſequence.

I am a great enemy to luxury, and very fond of exerciſe; for which reaſon Health, whoſe company is ſo deſirable, ſhews herſelf at all times more ready to viſit me, than ladies who make a much better figure. I can alſo boaſt that Quiet is my conſtant companion, and that there are very few vices able to live under

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the ſame roof. The moſt troubleſome, and perhaps you will think it ſtrange, is Pride; but ſhe is an inſinuating huſſy, and never wants ſome art or other of recommending herſelf in cottages as well as courts; when ſhe peſters me too much, I have no remedy but liſtening a little to Rumour; for no ſooner do I hear what other people ſay of me, than preſently I reſume my wits.

You have a little freehold in Warwickſhire, let us go down together; make it your ſtudy to remember your condition, and that experience has convinced you, your parts are not of a kind to make it better; though it may eaſily be made worſe. Your income, though ſmall, will keep Neceſſity at the door, if you yourſelf are not imprudent enough to let her in. Labour will ſupply many wants, and at the ſame time diverts care: he can never think himſelf a ſlave who has no maſter, or believe any office beneath him which nature requires; you muſt ſhun company, becauſe you cannot entertain them; the ill-judging world will call this ſpleen, but your own right-judging heart will acquit you. Accuſtom yourſelf to go often to that tribunal, and never diſpute its decrees. Time, which leſſens all evils, will make the pains of which you are apprehenſive become pleaſures. In the courſe of a few years I ſhall render you ſo many ſervices, you will begin to love me. I am ſo thoroughly perſuaded of this, that I will venture to felicitate you on your nuptials; for know, my dear ſpouſe, that providence matches for the beſt, and that men commonly owe their miſeries to a vain preferring their own choice.

At theſe words the decayed trader ſtarted from his ſeat, and, ſtretching out his hand with great alacrity, the ſudden motion waked him: he recollected, he conſidered his dream, and having bowed himſelf in humble thankfulneſs before his maker, he readily em-

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braced that ſtate of life which alone was left him; fully perſuaded, that virtuous poverty might afford as much happineſs as the moſt elevated condition, and that content with a little might prove as agreeable to him, as riches to others.

Anecdote of LYCURGUS.

LYCURGUS the Spartan law-giver, to ſhew his countrymen the vaſt importance of education, by reaſon of its influence in forming the mind and manners of a people, cauſed two whelps of the ſame litter to be bred in quite different ways; whereby the one became ſluggiſh and ravenous, the other of a good ſcent and ſkilled in hunting. Finding the experiment to anſwer his deſign, he ſoon took an occaſion, at an aſſembly of the Lacedemonians, to diſcourſe on this ſubject, and addreſſed them in the following terms: "It is of great advantage (fellow-citizens) to the acquiring of virtue, when any one is trained up in the cuſtomary practice of wholeſome inſtructions and precept, which I will preſently let you ſee by example." On this he ordered the young dogs to be brought into the midſt of the hall, where there was ſet before them, a veſſel in which meat had been frequently boiled, and a live hare. Whereupon according to their different breeding, one flew to the hare, and the other as greedily ran to the veſſel. The ſpectators were ſurpriſed, and, as they were muſing what ſhould be the intent of his introducing the whelps after this ſort, he ſaid to them: "This is "that I before told you; you perceive theſe crea-"tures do as they were taught; for, though they "are both of a litter, yet the diverſity of breeding "has made one a good hound, and the other a cur, "good for nothing, but to lick pots or diſhes."

History of the LYING-CLUB, *with the several stories told in it.*

SIR Harry Blunt, a witty gentleman, and very famous in the art of Mendaciloquence, being under an obligation to give a tavern treat to ſome foreign travellers, who were come over into England, to make themſelves acquainted with our cuſtoms and curioſities, did accordingly invite, in the year ſixty nine, his outlandiſh gueſts to the Belt-Tavern in Weſtminſter, to a plentiful entertainment, their dinner conſiſting of a huge over-grown Carp ſtewed; three brace of Partridges and a Leveret in the middle, for the ſecond courſe, and a buttered apple-pye to conclude the feaſt. When each of the company had ſufficed nature, and their tongues began to be at their uſual liberty, the dainties which ſo lately had obliged their appetites, occaſioned them to fall into a diſcourſe of fiſhing, fowling, and ſuch ſort of ſports, as it is reaſonable to believe the creatures they had eaten muſt naturally introduce, eſpecially among ſuch perſons that happened to be ſportſmen; ſo that every one being fond of amuſing the reſt with ſome extraordinary adventure, as an evidence of his ſkill in thoſe rural recreations, a forward gentleman, who was willing to break the way, begins the following ſtory, to ſhew what miraculous ſucceſs he had once met with in his hunting, viz.

STORY I.

About ſeven years ſince, when I lived in France, a few leagues from Montpellier, in the county of Languedoc, an unhappy gentleman, who was my near neighbour, happened to be murdered by his own ſervant, who alſo broke open a caſket, and carried off ſome jewels of a conſiderable value; but public intelligence being immediately diſpatched throughout

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the whole kingdom, there was no poſſibility of his attempting to get over ſea from any of the ports, but he muſt of neceſſity have been taken. About a week after this horrid villainy was perpetrated, the ſeaſon being agreeable, I had a ſtrong deſire, moved by ſome ſecret impulſe, to take out my dogs, being inwardly aſſured, that in ſuch a diſtant wood I ſhould meet with a wild boar that would yield us excellent ſport, accordingly one morning an hour before ſun-riſe, having given my huntſman notice over night, we were all in a readineſs to take the field; and prepoſſeſſed of infallible ſucceſs away I marched, with only my huntſman, a relation and my ſervant, in queſt of the game I had already rowed in my fancy, we had not long been entered into the avenues of the appointed wood, but the dogs, who were beating in one of the thickeſt copſes, began to open, and no ſooner had the huntſman given them encouragement, but away they went full cry, though, what game they met with was but as yet conjecture, at length, hearing them all open in the middle of the wood a long time together without any ceſſation, and much about the ſame place, as near as we could gueſs, we judged by the eagerneſs of their mouths, that they had ſomething at bay, upon which, fired with the reſolution of keen ſportſmen, we bolted through the under wood, leaving here a bit of coat, and there a bit of ſkin, to back the dogs againſt their powerful adverſary, who, as we thought, was defending himſelf with his tuſhes; at laſt, after many painful ſcratches, and other implacable difficulties, we came into the hounds, who were all ſpending and tearing at a bottom of a high tree as if the devil had poſſeſſed them; but finding no ſigns of any thing that could warm the dogs with ſuch unuſual fury, we were ready to conclude they had hunted ſome old witch in the ſhape of a boar, who had given them the drop in that place, by mount-

ing upon a wither, and riding over the tops of the trees to take ſanctuary in her own cottage; but as we were thus ſtanding under the umbrage of the oak which the dogs had ſurrounded, all ſtrangely amuſed at this uncommon diſappointment, down drops a ſur-reverence from the top of the tree upon the withers of my horſe, juſt under my noſtrils, which in plain Engliſh, ſtunk much worſe than ever I ſmelt a Pole-Cat; Morblu, thought I, what unlucky bird is this that has diſhonoured my galloper with ſuch an ignoble creſt? And with that, looking upwards, I beheld a huge bald pair of buttocks, with the other appurtenances hanging dangling down like a lion's tongue when he has been well hunted, perched upon a crooked bow inſtead of a houſe of office, to prevent the unſavory fruits of his labour from dripping into his trouzers. How now, ſirrah, ſaid I, trees were made for birds to perch upon, and not ſuch beaſts as you are, who cannot elevate your unmannerly rump, but you muſt pour down your dandelion dung upon the heads of your betters. "Pray, ſir, forgive me," cries the poor fellow, "it was nothing but the overflowings of my extraordinary fear; and I thought a cleanly ſtool would be much more comfortable than a foul pair of breeches." Sirrah, ſaid I, come down, and let me know who and what you are, or my man's fuſee ſhall fetch you off your perch; upon which threat, he only begged leave to button up his breeches, ſaying, he would then deſcend, and ſubmit himſelf to our mercy; accordingly the frighted refugee quitted his lofty ſtation, and ſlid down the trunk with as much agility as a monkey; but, no ſooner had he dropped himſelf upon Terra Firma, e'er I preſently diſcovered him to be my friend's ſervant who had robbed and butchered his maſter; upon which, I poſitively charged him with the fact, and with a ſorrowful countenance he confeſſed himſelf guilty; I then enquired of him

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what was the meaning that the hounds purſued him, to which he anſwered he could aſſign no reaſon, but theſe two; the firſt was, "That his pumps were made of the tanned hide of a wild boar, and by the heat of his feet left a ſcent, as he ſuppoſed upon the ground," which the hounds had been uſed to; or elſe, "That Providence had ordained that a man who had killed his maſter ſhould be hunted by dogs into the hands of juſtice;" ſo, in this miraculous diſcovery we ended the ſport of the day, and delivered the offender into the power of the law, who, in a little time, was broke upon the wheel, as he juſtly deſerved, for his moſt treacherous villainy.

No ſooner was the ſtory ended, but another gentleman, with the licenſe of a traveller, ſucceeded it with a ſecond, no leſs remarkable for its ſurprizing contingencies, than what might be obſerved in the preceding amuſement, viz.

STORY II.

About nine years ſince, being ordered from Holland to negotiate ſome buſineſs in Nova Hollandia, in the Eaſt-Indies, I was obliged to reſide for ſeveral months in the Dutch factory: in which time, being curious to inſpect a little into the adjacent country, I got an honeſt fellow, who was a neighbouring Indian, that could ſpeak a little Dutch, to bear me company; and, willing to give myſelf ſome diverſion in my ramble, I took with me ſuch fiſhing-tackle as the country afforded, that we might pleaſe ourſelves by the way, with an hour or two's recreation by the ſides of ſuch rivers as we ſhould chance to meet with, angling being a contemplative paſtime that I always delighted in. When we were thus equipped for our wandering expedition, away we jogged upon our pedeſtals, till at laſt we came to a pleaſant river which the Indian

was acquainted with, who told me, it abounded with a delicious fiſh in the language of the natives, called a Powton, which ſignifies a glutton; ſo named, becauſe a voracious fiſh that would frequently prey upon its own kind; walking by the banks to pick out a ſhady place that might give us a little umbrage from the ſcorching ſun-beams, we at length came to a curious bed of oſiers, where we might ſtand with pleaſure, and there accordingly we prepared our tackle, and reſolved to try our fortune. The Indian being but a bungler at this ſort of ſport, could not get himſelf in a readineſs ſo ſoon as myſelf; ſo that I was entered upon my paſtime, whilſt he was very buſy in fumbling out his implements; nor had I laid into the river above two minutes, e'er I found by my float I had a ſwinging bite, but, as ill fortune would have it, I happened upon my head to have a feathered cap much worn in that country, and as my noddle was moving among the tops of the oſiers, a ſwinging hawk, which are generally very large in thoſe parts, hovering aloft juſt over me, and taking I ſuppoſe the plumes upon my noddle to be ſome ſtrange ſort of bird, and having a mind to taſte whether it was good food or not, came ſopping down, and made ſuch a furious ſtroak at her new quarry, that I thought, for a minute or two, ſhe had left my ſhoulders headleſs; under which ſurprize I dropped my angle-rod and ſo loſt my fiſh; but coming by degrees a little to myſelf, I began to ſcratch my ears to feel whether I had a head on, and in groping after that, I found I had only loſt my cap? I was very much amazed at this unaccountable aſſault, and gazing around me to diſcover the aſſailant, but ſeeing no body near me but my Indian companion on the other ſide of the river, I turned my eyes upwards, and at a conſiderable diſtance, there I ſaw the feathered thief ſailing upon the wing to the next wood, I ſuppoſe to examine into his booty; my fiſhing mate

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was ſo buſy that he perceived not the diſaſter, and was as much ſurprized when I told him what had happened, as I myſelf was who had ſurvived the danger; however, having received no great damage, I ſtood again to my tackle, and applied myſelf to my ſport, but remembered the ſportſman's ſaying, viz. Ware hawk, and kept my eyes about me, for fear the hungry raparee who had ſnatched away my cap, when ſhe found herſelf diſappointed, ſhould come again for my head, which as empty as it is, I was very unwilling to ſpare her; I had not long been returned to my paſtime, e'er I had another bite, but juſt as I ſtruck I found a ſtrange flouncing in the water, and ſuch a weight pulling at the end of my line, that I did not dare to weigh what I had faſtened for fear of ſhivering my tackle, ſo that I played with my unknown ſupper down the ſtream, till at length we came to a gravelly ſhallow, where, with eager eyes, I beheld the monſter I had tired with my management, upon ſight of which in ſtept my companion, and it was as much as he could do to give him a heave upon the ſhore; when we had thus ſecured him, he had ſo gorged my hook, that I was forced to rip him open, or muſt have broke my line, but found upon the diſſection that the leaſt of ſeven fiſh had firſt taken the bait, and being well faſtened was ſwallowed by a bigger; theſe two by a third; the three by a fourth; the fourth by a fifth; the fifth by a ſixth, and all thoſe by an over-grown large one, which compleated the number aforementioned, ſo that I caught a neſt of fiſh one within another, at one fortunate ſtroke, to make myſelf amends for the loſs of my feathered cap, at which ſucceſs I was ſo highly pleaſed, that we put up our tackle and returned homewards with abundance of ſatisfaction; but that which happened to be the moſt fortunate miracle that attended our adventure, was, that juſt as we came within ſight of the factory,

my cap which I had loſt after ſo odd a manner, came tumbling down in a perpendicular line, from a lofty diſtance, and chucked as cloſe upon my noddle, as a new hat fitted on by an Engliſh haberdaſher; being ſtrangely ſtartled to find ſomething clapped upon my head and my companion before me, I pulled off my bonnet in a great ſurprize, and perceived it to be the very individual cap which the hawk had robbed me of, and viewing it all over for my better aſſurance, found that the merry bird had muted in the lining, and, either through deſign or accident, had crowned me with a ſurreverence; I preſently recollected the old Engliſh proverb, viz. That ſh----n luck was good luck, and highly commended the good humour of the hawk, that would not ſuffer me to return into the factory with a callow pole, which being new ſhaved was as bare as a bird's a---e, ſo I wiped off the ſoil, put on my feathered mounteer, and was pleaſed I had met with a bird of prey that had much more honeſty than ſome of my fellow creatures." Upon the concluſion of which ſtory, "Indeed, ſir," ſays Sir Harry Blunt, "had not the hawk been ſo civil as to return your cap, I would have given you mine, for I think you deſerve, for the wonders you have told us, all the caps in the company."

Sir Harry being a gentleman of ready wit and quick invention, and it now falling to his turn to entertain the company, conſidering it highly concerned his reputation to oblige them with ſomething that might be worthy of his character, accordingly he preſented them with a ſpecimen of his genius after the following manner, viz.

STORY III.

"As for my part, gentlemen, the only exerciſe that I particularly delight in, is drawing the long bow,

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in which piece of archery, by continual practice, I am ſo expert, that I have often times, with an arrow, taken a ſingle jackdaw from the weathercock of a church-ſteeple, ſo that I as frequently go a fowling with my bow and arrow, as other gentlemen do with their nets or birding pieces, and as often return home with unaccountable ſucceſs. It happened no longer ſince than yeſterday morning, that my man and I croſſed the river into Surrey, to try if we could meet with any tolerable ſport on that ſide of the water, where we ranged the woods and fields for ſeveral hours, before we met with any ſort of game that was worth our ſhooting at, inſomuch that we were quite tired with our fruitleſs endeavours, and to eaſe our legs, had taken up our ſitting upon the pleaſant bank of a narrow rivuler: alſo to conſult which way we ſhould ſteer our courſe, that we might mend our fortune; as we were thus talking and refreſhing our weary limbs, caſting my eyes around me, I happened to eſpy a woodpecker very buſy at work upon the trunk of an apple-tree, whoſe boughs were laden with very beautiful fruit, growing by chance in a meadow on the other ſide of the river, ſo that, though I very well knew a woodpecker was no food, yet, to exerciſe my hand, I reſolved to let fly at her, accordingly drew my bow, at which inſtant up leaped a ſwinging carp, a great height above the ſtream, in ſo diametrical a line to the mark I had taken aim at, that my arrow very luckily took the fiſh in the head, carried that to the woodpecker and pegged them both faſt into the body of the apple-tree, being greatly overjoyed at this unexpected ſucceſs, by the help of my man's grane-ſtaff I took a running jump and ſprung over the river, and pulling out my arrow with ſome difficulty, down dropped my fowl and fiſh both as dead as a herring; upon this, ſtooping for a little graſs to wipe off the blood from the peg of my arrow, I happened to

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catch a young leverite by the ears, who finding himſelf taken, did ſo claw my hands in ſtruggling for his liberty, that, being vexed at the ſmart, I gave his neck a twiſt, and flinging him in a fury a few yards from me, caſt him by good fortune among a covy of partridges, and by the violence of the throw killed three brace. Being ſtrangely aſtoniſhed at this miraculous event of one ſingle ſhot, I toſſed back the ſtaff that my man might come over to me, who, with lifted up hands, beheld the bleeding wonder, and picking up the game put them into his hawking-bag. By this time the heat of the day and our tireſome walk having made us drouthy, we began to remind ourſelves of the apples over our heads, ſo that I ordered my man to climb the tree, who mounted accordingly, and ſhook down as much fruit as we could well bring off with us: thus highly ſatisfied with our unexpected ſucceſs, we returned home laſt night on purpoſe to entertain this good company with the fruits of our labour; ſo that the carp, the partridges, the leverite and the apple-pye, which were brought to the table this very day, I hope will convince you, that I ſcorn to tell leſs truth than the reſt of my neighbours."

"Pray, ſir Harry," ſays one of the gentlemen, "what did you do with the woodpecker?" "Poh, poh," replies ſir Harry, "I intend to dry him in an oven, then hang him up in my hall with a parchment label about his neck that ſhall convey the miracle to ſucceeding generations."

A ſober grave gentleman ſitting next to ſir Harry, who had no extraordinary talent in ſuch ſort of ſtories, but it being his turn to continue their mirth, the company were very importunate with him to oblige them with a relation of ſome adventure that might be agreeable with the former; but the gentleman, conſcious of his own inſufficiency, and perceiving the reſt to be all maſters of that art of amuſement, deſired to be excuſed,

cuſed, but they ſtill perſiſted in their troubleſome intreaties till they teazed him into a paſſion, inſomuch, that he raps out a great oath, and breaths forth this expreſſion, viz. " I verily believe every tittle you have ſaid to be infallibly true, and that ſince I muſt be conformable, I think as great a lye, as any I have heard yet."

The foregoing ſarcaſm being ſpoke with warmth, it put the company into a fit of laughter: " Well," ſays ſir Harry, " ſince we are all travellers, and ſo happily met together, let us conſtitute a meeting once a week in this very houſe we are now ſo merry in, that we may refreſh nature with a chearful bottle, and exerciſe our faculties to one another's ſatisfaction;" to which propoſal the whole company aſſented: " But hark ye, ſirs," ſays the gentleman whom they had teazed with their importunities, " a ſociety without a name, is like a book without a title; therefore, if we intend to hold a conſtant meeting, it is neceſſary we ſhould aſſume ſome certain denomination;" upon which, one would have it the Gentleman's Club, another the Traveller's Club: " No, no," ſays the ſneering ſatyriſt, " let us call it the Lying Club, and chuſe ſir Harry for our chair-man." Being all very merry over their wine, they were beſt pleaſed with the laſt diſtinction, accordingly reſolved themſelves into a club under the ſame title; and before they parted ſettled all the preliminaries, and agreed to be governed by the following orders, viz.

ORDERS *to be obſerved by the* LYING CLUB, *holden at the Bell-Tavern in Weſtminſter.*

I. That the chair-man ſhall be obliged to wear a blue cap with a red feather in it, or, upon his refuſal to do the ſame, ſhall for ſuch contempt, be turned out of the ſociety.

II. That

II. That no perſon ſhall be admitted as a worthy member of this worſhipful ſociety, till he has given ſufficient teſtimony of his qualifications to the whole board.

III. That whoever ſhall preſume to ſpeak a word of truth between the eſtabliſhed hours of ſix and ten, within this worſhipful ſociety, without firſt ſaying with an audible voice, "By your leave, ſir Harry," ſhall, for every ſuch offence, forfeit one gallon of ſuch wine as Mr. Chairman ſhall think fit.

IV. That when any worthy member ſhall modeſtly introduce any ſtupendous improbability, beyond what the chair-man ſhall be able to parallel, that then the ſaid chair-man ſhall reſign his cap, and deliver up his chair to ſo deſerving a member, who ſhall hold the ſame, till ſome other member, by his extraordinary merits ſhall happen to oblige him to the like reſignation.

V. That any worthy member of this worſhipful ſociety, who ſhall preſume to ſwear during club hours, except to grace a lye, ſhall, for every ſuch offence, forfeit one bottle of ſuch wine as the chair-man ſhall appoint.

VI. That if any member of this worſhipful ſociety, ſhall neglect to appear upon the club night, between the aforeſaid hours of ſix and ten, that every ſuch aggreſſor, upon the ſucceeding club night, ſhall for ſuch contempt, be amerced four rhodomontades off hand, or forfeit five ſhillings to the ſervants of the houſe, and in caſe he doubles his neglect by not attending the board upon the next club night, then to be amerced upon his next appearance, as many thumping lies as the chair-man ſhall think fit, or to be expelled the ſociety.

VII. That no perſon be admitted a member of this worſhipful ſociety, except doctor Oates, or ſuch as ſhall bring under the doctor's hand and ſeal a teſtimonial of their qualifications.

VIII.

VIII. That this worſhipful ſociety be duly adjourned at ten of the clock, or the chair-man to forfeit a gallon of claret to the board, and his cap and feather to his right hand neighbour.

Upon this footing the Lying-Club was at firſt eſtabliſhed, over which ſir Harry Blunt preſided as chair-man above a twelve-monrh, till at length, a merry gentleman, who was an abſolute maſter of the lying faculty, diſrobed him of his authority; but ſir Harry in a little time recovered his reputation, and re-inſtated himſelf in the chair, which he held ſucceſſively for ſeveral years after, till he had the honour to become the patron or Mæcenas of all the fictions in the town; therefore, ſince I have given you the riſe and conſtitution of this memorable ſociety, I ſhall now proceed to ſome of their fabulous ſtories, delivered by certain members upon their firſt initiation; alſo ſeveral remarkable extravagancies that paſſed too and fro, between the famous knight, and ſuch of the witty members, as contended for the chair.

In a ſhort time after the ſociety was eſtabliſhed, came a couple of young gentlemen, to deſire their admittance, being well qualified, as they thought, to perform their exerciſe according to the cuſtom of the club, upon ſending up their buſineſs by a ſelect drawer that attended the ſociety, they were admitted to the board, to give proof of their endowments; upon which, the moſt forward of the two began to exerciſe his talent (after paying his compliment) in manner following, viz.

STORY IV.

"Gentlemen, about five years ſince, I had the ill fortune to marry a very beautiful woman, in whoſe delightful embraces, for a conſiderable time, I thought myſelf not only ſecure, but extremely happy, till at length, as I was walking early one morning in my own

own grounds, according to my cuſtom, I happened to meet with an old woman, who was ſauntering towards my dairy-houſe to beg a pitcher of butter-milk. "Good-morrow to ye old mother," ſaid I, "Good-morrow, maſter," quoth the beetle browed beldam, adding, if I would croſs her hand with a piece of ſilver, ſhe would tell me my fortune, which accordingly I did, but more out of charity, than any curioſity I had to hear my deſtiny; no ſooner had ſhe received a token of my bounty, but, in plain words, ſhe told me I was a cuckold, you are a lying old hag, ſaid I; and I could find in my heart to have you laſhed at the next whipping poſt. "Since you will not believe me," cries the ſurly witch, "I'll make you ſee your horns, e'er you go much farther;" and ſo we both parted, muttering at each other; but I had not gone above two hundred yards, before I came to a curious ſpring, which tempted me to refreſh my eyes with ſome of the running water, which I had no ſooner done, but ſtooping to the ſtream to repeat the ſame, I ſaw myſelf in the water perfectly transformed into a mighty buck, with a load of antlers upon my head ſufficient to have ſet up a knife-cutler; I was ſtrangely aſtoniſhed at this unaccountable change, and began to conſider that I was certainly bewitched, by that confounded forcereſs, who had told me my fortune; for I ſtill found I had my memory left, though I was deprived of ſpeech, and totally diveſted of my human appetites, ſo that my brains run upon nothing but ſhady woods and freſh paſtures; and were ſo ſtrangely poſſeſſed of unaccountable fears, that the barking of a dog frighted me much worſe than a clap of thunder; I now, to hide myſelf from the ſight of the paſſengers, made the beſt of my way to a neighbouring cover, where I lay in ſolitude for ſeveral days and nights, and was glad to nibble off the bark of my own trees, for a ſtarving ſuſtenance: in this unhappy ſtate

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of a timorous brute I lived for ſeveral months, till it began to be rutting time with me, that I found my dowſets itch as much after a doe, as ever my concupiſcence did after a woman, and was grown of a ſudden ſo horn-mad withal, that I was ready to run a tilt at every thing that came near me; ſo that I left my cover in the night and jumped ovor the pales into my own park, in hopes to match myſelf with a mate, where I had not been above a quarter of an hour, but I heard a ſtrange voice over my head, crying, "Marcum, marcum, draw blood of thy rival, and the ſame ſhall reſtore thee to thy former ſhape:" I liſtened, you muſt believe, with all the ears I had, and was glad to be informed, that there was any poſſibility of being once more recovered into a ſtate of humanity, but was ſtill as ignorant which way to proſecute the advice which the witch or devil had given me, as I was, before I was inſtructed, how to ſhift off my brutality; ſo that I was ready to fancy, the hag had only ſcoffed me, for I could not foreſee any proſpect that I had of purſuing her directions; but the next day proving exceſſive hot, and I, who ought to have been the maſter buck, being a ſtranger to the herd, was beaten by my horned brethren, from all the covers of the park, that for my eaſe as well as my ſecurity, I ventured to leap over a lofty pale, that fenced in an orchard adjacent to my houſe, there couched myſelf amidſt a thicket of currant-buſhes, where I had not lain long, but my rival and my lady came ſailing along the graſs, linked ſo amorouſly together, as if they were retired with a mutual deſire of giving their a--s a ſallad: juſt as I imagined ſo it proved, for no ſooner had they ſkreened themſelves behind a thick holly hedge, but down he lays my lady, and juſt as he was going to add one ſprought more to my unmerciful creſt, up rouſes I, and with the revengeful fury of a horn-mad cuckold, ran full tilt at the poſte-

riors

riors of my rival, and goring his brawny drivers with my brow-antlers, I was immediately reſtored to my priſtine humanity, which the adultreſs beholding in a ſtrange confuſion, ſkipped as nimbly from the ground as a Dutch tumbler: and flying in a fright with her gallant halting after her, happened to plunge into a deep well, overgrown with nettles, and her ſpark upon her, ſo I clapped on the lid, for fear they ſhould ſtruggle out again, went into my houſe, reconciled myſelf to my ſervants, and came to town on purpoſe to oblige you, ingenious gentlemen, with this amuſing relation, in hopes to become a member of this worſhipful ſociety."

"Truly, ſir," replies the chair-man, "this ſtory may paſs for a good lie amongſt ſome ignorant pretenders, who are not able to diſtinguiſh between truth and falſehood; but we cannot here, by the laws of our ſociety, admit any gentleman who is ſo careleſs, in the performance of his initiating exerciſe, as to corrupt his genius with the leaſt probability; though a great part of your ſtory is fabulous enough in reaſon, yet nothing is more likely than that you may be a cuckold, and the probability of that deſtroys the incredibility of all you have reported; for as truth out of a liar's mouth ought ſcarce to be credited, ſo nothing can deſerve the ſanction of a lie, but what is void of all manner of probability; therefore, I hope, ſir, you will excuſe us, for we cannot poſſibly admit you."

This unexpected diſappointment ſo daſhed the poor gentleman out of countenance, that he had nothing further to offer in his defence, but up he ſtarted, and ſtepping abruptly out of the room, "Z——ds," ſays he, "if ſuch lies as theſe will not paſs muſter among you, the devil himſelf is only fit to be your chairman;" ſo went haſtily down ſtairs, left his friend behind

hind him, and marched off, muttering, very much diſſatisfied.

No ſooner had the ſociety diſpatched this gentleman, but ſilence was commanded, and his companion that came in with him was called upon to report to the board what he had to offer, that might recommend him to the ſociety; upon which, though he was a little diſpirited to ſee his poor friend come off ſo unſucceſsfully, yet, having a pretty good aſſurance, he reſolved to give them a ſpecimen of his talent, and thus began his amuſement, viz.

STORY V.

"My father, being a Derbyſhire gentleman, happened to have an old ſeat near the Peak, and a plentiful eſtate in that county; behind the houſe, among other wonders, there remains a deep well, into which, not only our family, but many of the neighbours, in the inteſtine wars, caſt the beſt of their treaſure to ſecure it from the rebels; but, when the troubles were over, attempting to recover what, as each believed, they had ſo carefully diſpoſed of, they found upon their ſearch, the gulph that had ſwallowed up their wealth was of ſuch an immenſurable profundity, that all the cart ropes in the country, joined together, were not long enough to fathom it; upon which my father, being troubled at his neighbours loſſes as well as his own, ſent up to London for a waggon load of hemp, and had it ſpun and twiſted into a ſtrong line in order to reach the bottom; when he had thus far proceeded, he erected a windleſs over the mouth of the well, had a bucket made as large as a Graveſend tilt-boat, furniſhed it with a good feather bed, a runlet of Derby ale, a peck loaf and a Cheſhire cheeſe, pipes, candles and tobacco, and offered five pounds to any country fellow that would venture to travel to

the end of this infernal thoroughfare; but notwithſtanding the proviſion he had made, and the reward he promiſed, yet the country people had ſuch frightful notions of this terrible deſcent, that none of them would engage in the ſubterranean expedition; at length, a poor Scotch pedlar, being robbed of his goods, as travelling to a fair, came in great diſtreſs to my father's door, and begged for a hard onion and a little oatmeal to help him forward in his journey, upon which my father told him the whole ſtory, offered him the gratuity aforementioned, and, for his further encouragement, a tythe of all the riches he ſhould happen to recover; theſe joyful propoſals ſo readily prevailed with the indigent pedlar, that he preſently undertook his perpendicular journey, and ſwore, were it the fundament of hell, and he ſhould meet the devil by the way, yet, if it were poſſible, he would earn the money: upon this his reſolution, my father bound him to his bargain by an earneſt of ten ſhillings; ſo the tackle was got ready, and after a little repaſt, the pedlar, without fear, ſtept into his cabbin with his empty wallet upon his ſhoulder, and was let down gradatim for two days and two nights, and then the line ſlackened, from whence we concluded that he was arrived at the bottom, where we ſuffered him to remain the beſt part of a day to gather up the riches; at laſt, we found he gave the rope a pull as an item of his willingneſs to return, accordingly we wound up, and to our great ſatisfaction, found him much more ponderous than in his paſſage downwards, from whence we reaſonably conjectured he had diſcovered the wealth, and made a profitable voyage; by this time the neighbours were collected in a body, all gaping for the fortunate reſurrection of the bold adventurer, like the rabble waiting at the foot of the mountain for the ſight of a ſtrange monſter; ſome enlivened with the pleaſing hopes of ſharing the wealthy

returns

returns he had recovered from the deep; others expecting to hear wonderful news from the neather receſſes of the lower world; all equally importunate to behold the undertaker of ſo dangerous an expedition; at laſt, after three days labour to reduce him from the deep, up came the vehicle, and out ſtept the Scotchman, with his pack upon his back very richly laden with muſlins, callicoes, and ſilk handkerchiefs, but without a tittle of the loſt treaſure for which he had been diving; we preſently attacked him with a thouſand queſtions, about what diſcoveries he had made in the ſubterranean travels; particularly, how he came to be ſo well furniſhed with ſuch a ſtock of commodities; in anſwer to which, he told us, he had met with nothing remarkable in his long dark paſſage, till he came among the Antipodes, where he happened to find a parcel of Indian weavers ſelling their goods at a fair, ſo that he improved the opportunity by buying good penny-worths, and had repleniſhed his pack with ſeveral Indian manufactures, at the ſmall expence of what my father had given him; but, as for the treaſure he went in ſearch of, what had been poured in on this ſide the globe, was taken up n the other ſide, and paſt all recovery, ſo that every body was forced to be content with their loſſes. As ſoon as he had given us this ſorrowful account, beholding himſelf ſurrounded with ſuch a number of ſpectators, he fell to opening his pack, and all people preſent, being curious to purchaſe ſomething of what was gained ſo miraculouſly, bought up all his wares at his own prices; upon which, the pedlar was very importunate with my father to give him the liberty of going a ſecond time to market; but my father, being a man of a covetous temper, denied the Scotchman's requeſt, and reſolved to go himſelf, but the tackle breaking in the middle of his deſcent, let him drop at once to his journey's end, beyond all recovery; ſo that I loſt my

father, but got the eſtate, and am now come up to London to offer this new-found paſſage, upon reaſonable terms, to the Eaſt-India company."

His fictitious ſtory being thus ended, "Truly, young gentleman," ſays the chair-man, "conſidering your youth, I think you have given a ſufficient teſtimony of your qualifications, and, becauſe ſo promiſing a falſiloquent ſhould not be baulked of his matriculation, we admit you as a member of this worſhipful ſociety; ſo my humble ſervice to you, and you are welcome brother."

Upon another night, when there was a full board, and the fumes of the wine had inſpired the ſociety with much wit and pleaſantry, ſome who were ambitious of being ſeated in the chair, reſolved to make a home puſh at ſir Harry Blunt, and by the dint of extravagant lying to thruſt him out of his authority, the chair-man being obliged to reſign his poſt, if he attempted a tale that he could not make poſſible, or when another told a lie that he could not readily parallel. Purſuant to this deſign, which was agreed on by ſome travellers, one of the undertakers, who was warmed with emulation, began as follows, viz.

STORY VI.

"As I was once travelling upod the Weſt-India continent, I happened to behold a cabbage whoſe leaves were ſo extenſive, that it was at leaſt a month's journey for a ſnail or a ſlug to croſs the leaſt of them; and that one ſingle leaf, in caſe of a famine, was ſufficient to ſubſiſt a whole country for a week; but that which was moſt remarkable, the ſtalk was as thick as a church-ſteeple, and as high as the monument; out of the ſides of which, beneath the cabbage that grew upon the top of the ſtem, ſprung a plentiful excreſcency of ſuch delicious ſprouts, that a meſs of them

boiled

boiled with a gammon of bear-bacon, was the beſt victuals in the univerſe."

"It was a thumping cabbage, indeed," replied Sir Harry, "but I once met with as great a wonder in my late travels through Preſtor John's country, viz.

STORY VII.

"As I was riding upon an elephant, with my man behind me upon the ſame beaſt, in my paſſage from Chimaza to Tottimoza, I happened, by the road-ſide, to eſpy a brazen wall of ſuch a ſtupendious heighth, that I got a crick in my neck by gazing at the top of it; when we had rid by the ſide of it about a league and a half, we came to a very tall ladder erected againſt the wall, and pitched againſt a hole half a mile below the corniſh, through which I imagined the inhabitants of the city, ſo miraculouſly fortified, paſſed in and out; being ſtrangely amuſed at this wonderful ſight, I ſtopped my elephant, and leaving the peaceable brute to the care of my ſervant, mounted up the ladder to ſatisfy my curioſity by a peep on the other ſide, and having climbed to the port-hole in about half an hour, with an aching heart and a giddy brain, I caſt my eyes downwards from my lofty promontory, but could diſcover nothing at ſo great a diſtance, but a great number of little black things, who were pecking like ſo many rooks in a new ſown peaſe-field; but finding another ladder on the contrary ſide, I took heart of grace and deſcended down amongſt them, and when I came there, what above I took to be crows, I found below to be tinkers very hard at work; and what I had foolihly conjectured to be brazen walls of ſome rich and populous city, proved nothing more, upon a clear enquiry, than an old caldron, about a league in diameter, which had ſuſtained ſome damage by careleſs uſage, and ſo an army of

tinkers were employed by the owner to ſtop its lakes." "A caldron," cried the author of the foregoing ſtory, "a league in diameter too! Zounds, Mr. Chairman, pray what could it be for?" "Sir," replied Sir Harry, "it was made on purpoſe to boil your great cabbage in." By which witty return Sir Harry maintained his honour, and ſecured his chair from the invaſion of his rival.

Upon this diſappointment, another of the combinators, to back his confederate, thus began his extravagant fiction, in hopes to win that honour which his friend had failed of.

STORY VIII.

"Being ſent into Perſia, ſome years ſince, to negotiate an affair concerning the ſilk trade, with an eminent merchant of that country, and hearing, when I was there, an incredible account of the Sophy's palace, I had a great curioſity to behold the ſame, accordingly gave myſelf the trouble of a day's journey to gratify my deſire; but when I came within ſight of the magnificent pile, I was much more aſtoniſhed at its wonderful appearance, than I was at the deſcription; for the Alps are no more to be compared to it in height, than a mole-hill to Mount Caucaſus. The Sophy being retired to his rural palace, by ſeeing of a ſervant I had an opportunity of viewing the inſide; but the foundation of the edifice was ſo vaſtly deep, that it coſt me a week's time to go down into the wine-cellar, where we could hear the Antipodes hallow over their liquor, as if they had been hunting: from thence we were ſix weeks time in climbing into the garrets, which ſtood above all the clouds ſo extravagantly high, that the moon had untiled the houſe but the night before, by knocking her horns againſt the roof of the building: I took but little time in looking

looking about me, for our proviſions falling ſhort, we were forced to return haſtily, for fear of being ſtarved before we got down again; and though we trip it as nimbly as a ploughman from church to a bag-pudding, yet we made it a full month before we could recover the ground floor; ſo I thank'd my conductor for his great civility, and returned to my merchant's houſe as heartily tired, as if I had been rowing ſix months in a French galley."

STORY IX.

"I confeſs, ſir," replies the chairman, "this is as ſtrange a palace as ever I heard of: but as I was once travelling in the country of Mauruſia, I happened to take a view of a giant's caſtle, which had formerly been the noble ſeat of that monſter of a man, Antæus, who was ſlain by Hercules, that he might kiſs his wife Tagenna, who, as well as her huſband, was about ſeventy cubits high; and there indeed to my great wonder, I ſaw one banquetting-room, where they uſed to entertain their friends upon feſtival days, which to oblige my curioſity, I meaſured exactly, and found it to be ſomething above a mile in length; but that which was more remarkable, it contained a table which, upon full extenſion, was two miles long."

"Now, Sir Harry," cries his laughing antagoniſt, "I am ſure we have caught you: how can a room that is but a mile long, contain a table that is two miles long?" "I muſt tell you gentlemen," replies Sir Harry, "you may quit your hold, for it was a drawing table, and happened to be ſhut in half a mile at each end."

No ſooner had Sir Harry, by his witty come-off, preſerved his reputation, and defended his chair from the uſurpation of his rivals a ſecond time, but a third renewed the challenge by the following amuſement, viz.

STORY X.

" As I was travelling in the East-Indies from one of our factories further into the country, I happened to meet upon the road an overgrown tyger, as big as Homer reports the Trojan horſe, with as many fortune-tellers riding upon his back, as ever the other carried warriors in his belly, yet the beaſt was ſo very tame, that he bore them all quietly without the government of a bridle, and went purring along like an old cat, as if he was proud of his ſervitude; I took the liberty to aſk them what they had fed him with, to nurſe him up to that prodigious magnitude? to which they anſwered, that they never gave him any thing; for that he only lived by licking his whiſkers." ——There happening in the company to be a luſty gentleman with a huge pair of whiſkers, who had ſpent his fortune by conſulting of the ſtars among Gadbury, Cooley, and the reſt of the wiſe-acres, who pretended to aſtrology, and was often forced to depend upon the ſociety for want of money to pay his club, who, finding the ſtory ſo applicable to himſelf, ſteals down ſtairs, and ſhaves off the ornament of his upper lip at the next barber's, returns again to the company, who preſently obſerving the mighty alteration, took the freedom to aſk him what was become of his whiſkers? " Z——ds," ſays he, " that honeſt gentleman in his ſtory of the tyger, gave me ſo hard a pull by them, that I went immediately and cut them off, to ſpoil his hold for the future."

Sir Harry, according to the cuſtom of the chair now entered upon this ſtory, in anſwer to the challenge, viz.

STORY XI.

" I confeſs I never beheld ſuch a large tyger as that worthy member has reported to the board, but I have

have often ſeen in the Weſt-Indies, to my great admiration, what has been equally wonderful, which are a ſort of monſtrous bees of ſuch a prodigious magnitude, that they are commonly as big as our Engliſh bull-dogs, and have their arſes fortified, dragon like, with ſuch extenſive ſtings, that they can dart a man through at one thruſt, as if he was ſtuck with a rapier." "Pray, Mr. Chairman," ſays a thwarting member, "what ſort of hives have they in that c untry?" "Juſt ſuch," replies Sir Harry, "as our bees have in England:" with that the whole ſociety burſt into a laughter; crying, "How can ſuch monſtrous bees creep into ſuch little hives?" "Nay, nay," cries Sir Harry, "let the bees look to that."

In theſe ſort of merry jeſts, and extravagant fables, the Rodomontading Society uſed to ſpin out their club-hours, judging the largeneſs of a man's genius by the mightineſs of his lies; in which prepoſterous talent they ſo plentifully abounded, that they furniſhed the whole town with their fictitious ſtories, and raiſed their fabulous ſociety to ſuch a pitch of reputation, that ſcarce a lie could paſs muſter that had not the honour to be fathered upon their judicious aſſembly. Thus they made themſelves famous for ſeveral years, 'till at length Sir Harry, who was the principal ſupporter of the diabolical faculty, piked over the perch, and then the club dwindled into public contempt for want of the great example, as well as direction, of ſuch another chairman.

A Poem in praiſe of the Art of LYING: *written by a Member of the Lying Club.*

O muſe inſpire me with a brazen face;
For good aſſurance is a Lyar's grace;
No painful ſtudies can our thoughts refine,
Or gild our wits, like impudence and wine:

Such

Such powers united, bleſs us double fold,
One makes us bright, and t'other makes us bold:
O! let me neither want, that I may praiſe
The Art of Lying in romantic lays;
That antient art, which has in faſhion been,
E'er ſince fair Eve was monarch Adam's queen:
That noble art, which taught them firſt to know
Forbidden ſprings where tides of pleaſures flow,
And how, by mutual ſtruggles, to improve
The force of dalliance, and the joys of love.
What, tho' it is by ſaints and prieſt decry'd,
And by the great to meaner ſlaves deny'd?
Yet well-bred lying is an art that's us'd
By thoſe the moſt, by whom it's moſt abus'd;
It hides a thouſand faults from public view,
And adds a grace to ev'ry act we do;
It is the ſtateſman's friend, the lawyer's plea,
The poet's muſe, the p———'s ſecurity;
The trader's conſcience, and the woman's veil,
That hides the failings of her wanton tail:
It conquers beauty, carries on intrigues;
It leads to battle, and conſummates leagues;
It merit gives to fools of high degree,
And yields the pope infallibility;
It draws the crowd into a wild belief,
Quickens our joys, and moderates our grief;
It does the bibliopolæ's wealth encreaſe,
And ſtarves the author to enrich the preſs;
It paints the patron of a glorious hue,
And makes him learn'd in arts he never knew;
It gives a ſanction to the wealthy knave,
Bleaches the dowdy, makes the coward brave;
It ſhews the harlot in a modeſt dreſs,
And waves a cov'ring for her foul diſgrace;
It oft appeaſes jealouſies, and finds
Pleaſing excuſes, and a thouſand blinds,

Preſerves

Preſerves the comfort of a nuptial life,
And makes the cuckold hug the jilt his wife.
What tho' of helliſh race as ſome do hold,
And the firſt lye was by the devil told?
Yet, ſhould the Art of Lying be ſuppreſt,
And us'd no more in earneſt or in jeſt,
A thouſand hurtful truths would then ariſe,
Which now are ſcreen'd by neceſſary lies:
My lady could no more with couſin hide,
And by her maids and footmen be deny'd;
Our teachers no fictitious tales impoſe,
To lead believing thouſands by the noſe;
No fulſome praiſe from poets pens would flow,
To flatter this rich knave, or that fine beau;
No nauſeous adulations ſhame our ſchools,
To raiſe the fame of undeſerving fools:
In ſhort, the greateſt then muſt low'r their pride,
And hear thoſe truths they would be glad to hide:
The lady then that feaſts her lover's arms,
Would ſeem no more all innocence and charms,
But her brib'd confidants, when aſk'd, betray
The ſhameful ſecrets of each ſinful day;
Nor could the honour'd fool, or wealthy aſs,
Thro' the whole nation for a Solon paſs;
But all appear, if ſtript of their diſguiſe,
Empty and vicious to the vulgar's eyes;
Then why ſhould buſy mortals be enjoyn'd
To follow truth, ſince in this age we find
Officious lies ſo uſeful to mankind?

ORASMIN, *the Son of* IBRAHIM: *an Oriental Tale.*

SON of man, learn reſignation to the appointments of Providence, nor dare to drop a murmur at the diſpenſations of the Moſt Juſt. Think not of diſputing with the wiſdom of Infinity; nor dream of wreſting

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ing the vindictive-thunder-bolt from the dread right hand of God.

In the city of Bagdad, ſo celebrated by the ſages of antiquity, lived Oraſmin, the ſon of Ibrahim, whoſe name was an Aromatic that perfumed the remoteſt corners of the Eaſt. His perſon was as noble as the riſing oak in the foreſt, and his mind as unſullied as a meridian beam from the ſun; his bounty wiped away the tear from the eye of the fatherleſs, nor did the mourning of the widow ever paſs unregarded at his gate.——To ſum up his character at once, complacency and benevolence were always ſeated on his brow, and humanity was a virtue ſo natural to his heart, that it formed the core, and twiſted round the ſtrings. Thus amiable, it was no wonder, that by all who ſaw him he ſhould be inſtantly admired; and thus deſerving, no way ſtrange, that by all who knew him he ſhould be cordially reſpected and beloved.

Among a variety of virgins who languiſhed for Oraſmin, Almira, a damſel of Balſora, newly arrived at Bagdad, was the only perſon bleſt with a reciprocal eſteem; the bluſh of the morning was leſs roſy than her cheek, and the diamond of Golconda not ſo brilliant as her eye; her boſom was white as the ſwan upon the water, and gentle as the midſummer murmur of the ſtream.---How often, O ye groves of Balſora, have ye echoed with the fame of her beauty! How oft, O ye vallies of Bagdad, have ye reſounded with her praiſe! You know that her voice would chain the tyger of the deſart, and unnerve the wild ſtag as he darted from the hill; you know that the ſpices of Ormus could not equal her breath, nor the daughters of paradiſe excel her dignity and grace.

Oraſmin and Almira were not more diſtinguiſhed for their merit, than remarkable for their loves: and as neither had any parent living to oppoſe their wiſh-

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es, a day was appointed for the celebration of their nuptials, to the univerſal ſatisfaction of their friends. Oraſmin, all impatient for poſſeſſing the only object that had ever engroſſed his heart, longed for the happy hour with the raptures he was to experience in the arms of Almira. She, not leſs impatient, though more confined in her expreſſions of the approaching felicity, painted equally warm to her fancy, the uninterrupted enjoyment of all ſhe held dear, and counted over the weeks, the months, and the years, ſhe had a probable expectation of paſſing in the tendereſt intercourſe with her adored Oraſmin.——But alas! while our lovers were thus enhancing the preſent, by reflecting on the future, an order arrived for Almira to attend the caliph, who had for ſome time been entertained with various reports of her unparalleled beauty, and wanted to ſee if the encomiums laviſhed ſo frequently upon her were juſt. Neither her religion nor her allegiance could allow her to form any excuſe for not attending the "commander of the faithful," much leſs admit of a reſolution to diſobey; he was worſhipped with an implicit reverence, as a ſucceſſor of the holy Mahomet, by all his people, and his word was ever looked upon as the irrevocable voice of fate.——Almira therefore was immediately carried with a bleeding heart to the palace, and the moment ſhe was beheld by the caliph, declared the favourite of his queens.

It is not in language to tell the diſtraction of the two lovers, at being thus unexpectedly torn for ever from each other's arms; the moment Oraſmin heard that his Almira had captivated the caliph, he looked upon the buſineſs of life to be entirely over, and unable to ſupport the inexpreſſible agonies of his own mind, conſidered the angel of death as the only miniſter of repoſe; for two whole days and nights he wandered through the various rooms of his houſe in an abſolute ſtate of phrenzy, calling out at every interval

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in the moſt paſſionate tone, on the name of his raviſhed Almira. On the third day, growing ſomewhat calmer, he began to reflect on all the circumſtances of his paſt life, in order to find out in what particular he had given Mahomet ſuch unpardonable offence, as to meet with ſo ſevere a chaſtiſment at his hands. After revolving a long time, and finding nothing but ſome youthful indiſcretions to anſwer for, which were infinitely over-ballanced by a number of meritorious actions, he inſenſibly dropt upon one knee, and began to expoſtulate, in the following manner, with his God:

" Thou great Creator of the univerſe, who ſitteſt enthroned above the ſeven heavens, where even the conception of no prophet but the holy Mahomet, can dare to ſoar; look down in mercy on a wretch, who numbers himſelf with the moſt unhappy of human beings, though he has conſtantly maintained the deepeſt reverence for thy laws; tell him, O thou infinitely High! inform him, O thou inexpreſſibly Juſt! why he, who has ever made it his unalterable ſtudy, to deſerve thy awful ſanction on his deeds, is deemed to ſuffer what the moſt impious profaner of thy divine will, would look upon as a ſeverity, and confidently explain, was too great a puniſhment for the moſt enormous of his crimes."

Oraſmin had ſcarcely ended, when a clap of thunder ſhook the houſe, and an unuſual brightneſs lightened the room, where he ſtill continued on his knee, aſtoniſhed at this apparent meſſage from the Deity.--- When he recovered himſelf a little, a voice as awful as the trumpet of heaven, deſired him carefully to attend, and thus went on.---" Ceaſe, O miſtaken man, to doubt the mercy and juſtice of the Supreme Being! who though he acts by unknown ſprings and ſeeming ſeverities, is ever watchful for the happineſs of the virtuous, and perfectly conſiſtent in all his laws.

Conſider,

Conſider, Oraſmin, that this world is a tranſitory bubble, which muſt ſhortly burſt upon the ocean of time; that it is at beſt a ſhort voyage, in which every paſſenger muſt meet with ſome diſagreeable gales, in order to prove his dependance on the hand of Infinite Goodneſs, and ſhew that he is worthy of entering into an everlaſting port.—Without ſome adverſe ſtorms to ruffle the ſea of life, the tide of proſperity would frequently ſwell the creature into a forgetfulneſs of the Creator, and reduce him to a more dangerous ſituation than the bitterſt blaſt he can experience will ever bring him to; a total indifference of his God. Out of mercy, therefore, a variety of ſhoals and quick-ſands are thrown in his way, which keeping the ſenſe of his dependance on the Divine Being conſtantly alive in this world, puts him in capacity of ſteering his bark in the proper channel, and enables him to arrive at endleſs happineſs in the next.—But abſtracted from this general order in the ſtate of things; know, Oraſmin, that becauſe thou wert a particular favourite of heaven, it was decreed to ſnatch Almira from thy arms; ſhe was, O man, thy ſiſter:—Ibrahim, thy father, journeying to Balſora, was admitted to the cadi's wife, and the product of their guilty commerce was Almira; here again obſerve the kindneſs of heaven in its very ſeverities, which, in order to deter the parent from the commiſſion of enormities, denounces a judgment againſt what he values more highly than worlds, his race.——Oraſmin, be comforted; I have viſited Almira, and informed her of theſe things; ſhe is at eaſe, remain thou ſo too, and remember never again to doubt the goodneſs of Providence, which in its own time will reward thoſe who place their confidence in its hands." Oraſmin after this lived many years in happineſs, and left many children, who ſucceeded to his virtues and fortune, the eldeſt of whom was grand viſier to the caliph Haroun Alraſchid, and

ordered

ordered theſe matters to be recorded in the hiſtories of Bagdad.

Surpriſing Raſhneſs of the Emperor MAXIMILIAN.

IN the city of Ulm in Swabia, there is a very high ſteeple: the emperor Maximilian went up to the top of it, in order to take a view of the country round about, and ſtood upon one of the ſtones that jutted out from it, with only one half of his foot, moving the other about in the air; the ſtone on which he ſtood is ſhewn unto this day, with the name of Maximilian engraved on it.

APOLLO *and the* CRITIC: *a Fable.*

YE Sages who in Council ſit,
Sole Judges of the prize of wit,
Who hold the commonwealth of letters,
Enſlaved, and bound by critic fetters,
To whom each author humbly ſues,
For mercy, in the next reviews,
E're you your commentaries write,
To ſhew your learning, or your ſpite,
Or let your prejudice prevail,
Attentive, hear this antient tale.
A Critic with pedantic air,
An aſpect ſtern, and front ſevere,
An empty, ſtiff, affected fool,
Who thought, and ſpoke, and judged by rule,
Well-ſkill'd in the fault-finding ſcience,
To ſenſe and genius bid defiance,
Would ſay, the lines that Horace writ,
Were quite devoid of force or wit;
Nay, ſometimes boldly would aſpire
To prove, that Homer wanted fire,
Was eagle-eyed a fault to find,
To all poetic beauties blind. Such

Such were the tenets of his ſyſtem,
But living authors; he ne'er miſt 'em.
A Poet, fir'd with thirſt of praiſe
Aſpir'd to write heroic lays;
Our Critic reads the work divine,
With care marks ev'ry faulty line;
On theſe he writes his annotations,
Adorn'd with learn'd, long quotations.
His notes on Phœbus' altar plac'd
To ſhew his genius and his taſte,
Kneeling with humble ſuppliant air,
He to the God prefers his prayer.
" Behold, Apollo, at thy ſhrine,
" An off'ring worthy of the Nine!
" O, then, let Critics gain reſpect!
" For what ſo hard as to correct?
" With fav'ring eyes, our ſect regard,
" And let my neighbours meet reward."
" 'Tis well," the tuneful God replies,
" We always learned labours prize.
" From yonder corn with niceſt care
" Now ſeparate the chaff and tare."
The Critic ſtraight with lab'ring hands
Performs the Deity's commands.
A juſt reward our Zoilus gains,
The God with chaff repays his pains.
" What," the indignant Critic cries,
" Of all my toils, is this the prize?"
Phœbus replied, " The prize of fame
" Your envious labours ne'er can claim.
" You faults can accurately trace,
" But ne'er admire a ſingle grace;
" He that can only chaff regard,
" Let chaff alone be his reward."

The STONE-CUTTER'S *Addreſs to a young Widow of a Knight lately deceaſed.*

Divine Flint!

WERE you not harder than *porphyry* or *agate*, the *chizel* of my love, drove by the *mallet* of my fidelity, would have made ſome impreſſion on your heart. I, that have ſhaped, as I pleaſed, the moſt untoward ſubſtances, hoped by the *compaſs* of reaſon, the *plummet* of diſcretion, the *ſaw* of conſtancy, the ſoft *file* of kindneſs, and the *poliſh* of good words, to have modelled you into one of the prettieſt ſtatues in the world: but alas! I find you are a very *flint*, that ſhoots fire, and ſets us in a blaze, though you are as cold as the marble in my ſhop. Alas! muſt I that have made ſo many hard matters yield, now ſee the *edge* of my endeavours turned and blunted. Why ſhould you deſpiſe my profeſſion? Pray, were not *Praxyteles* and *Phydia*, ſtatuaries, and conſequently *ſtone-cutters*, as well as I? and yet their names have outlived by two or three thouſand years, moſt of thoſe whoſe ſtatutes they have made; and will be famous hereafter, when a thouſand little *dub'd mortal's* memories will wear out ſooner than the cloaths that mourn their deaths, and be utterly loſt to all that never go to church to read their epitaphs: methinks then, we, to whom they owe the eternity of their names, ſhould be reckoned the nobler of the two; and indeed what can be greater, than out of ſtock and ſtone to make Princes, Kings, Saints, and, I may add, Gods themſelves.—But what need we ſtand upon extraction? am not I a man ſix foot high; well made and young? are not you a lady, a widow, and at your own diſpoſal? And did not the noble lady, your couſin *Loveit*, marry her groom? my lady *Longſtorit*, her coachman? and my pretty lady *Haſty*, her poſtilion!

poſtilion! another fancied her butler; and another her footman. Again, as for our own ſex; how many dignified ſparks owe their wives to the dairy, the landry, or the kitchen? and how many are ſtill profering honourable love to their look-maids? Recall then my baniſhment, noble widow, or I ſhall finiſh my days with my own *compaſs:* but firſt I'll erect my own monument, and inſcribe it with this epitaph:

Under this ſtone lies the cutter,
Who long purr'd like a cat in a gutter
For a widow worſe than *Tartar*,
And at laſt is dead her martyr.

If my poetry is not ſo good as it ought to be, you muſt attribute it to my confuſion, for I know not either what I ſay or do. If I go to make a *dragon*, I ſtrike out a *cupid:* inſtead of a *church font* for baptiſm, I make an apothecaries *mortar:* a *death's head* for a *Venus*, &c. Dear, dear *pillar* of my hopes, *pedeſtal* of my comfort, and *corniſh* of my joy; upon your pity I build all the happineſs of my *tabernacle*. I am ready to erect *ſtatues* to your generoſity; *monuments, obeliſks* and *pyramids* to your glory. Let it not then be ſaid, that your cruelty hath cut off

The STONE-CUTTER.

WOOD, *the great eater of Kent.*

NICHOLAS WOOD of Harrietſham in Kent, would eat a whole ſheep of ſixteen ſhillings price (in the reign of king James the firſt) raw, at one meal. At another time he devoured thirty dozen of pigeons. At Sir William Sydley's, at South-ſtreet, he eat as much victuals as would have ſufficed thirty men at one meal. At Lord Wooton's manſion-houſe, at Addington in the ſame county, he eat, at one dinner, fourſcore and four rabbits, which at half a rabbit

per man, would have ſerved an hundred, three ſcore and eight men. At another time he devoured a whole hog, at one ſitting down; and after it, three pecks of damſons for a digeſtive. He frequently eat eighteen yards of black-pudding for his breakfaſt. I never heard of his drinking any great quantity.

He was a poor ſilly fellow, and kept by the pariſh, and uſed to go about to gentlemen's houſes, who would ſometimes divert themſelves, by filling his belly. Being one time preſented to king James the firſt, who was told of his great eating. His majeſty aſked what he could do more than another man; and being anſwered, that he could not do ſo much; he replied, hang him then, for it is unfit a man ſhould live that eats as much as twenty men, and can't do ſo much as one.

Anecdote of MALCOLM IIId. *King of Scotland.*

HAVING received an information that one of his nobles had conceived a deſign againſt his life, he enjoyned the ſtricteſt ſilence to the informer, and took no notice of it himſelf, till the perſon accuſed of this execrable treaſon came to his court, in order to execute his intention. The next morning he went to hunt, with all the train of his courtiers, and when they were got into the deepeſt woods of the foreſt, drew that nobleman away from the reſt of the company, and ſpoke to him thus: "Behold, we are "here alone, armed and mounted alike. Nobody "ſees or hears us, or can give either of us aid againſt "the other. If then you are a brave man, if you "have courage and ſpirit, perform your purpoſe; ac-"compliſh the promiſe you have made to my ene-"mies. If you think I ought to be killed by you, "when can you do it better? when more opportune-"ly? when more manfully?---Have you prepared

"poiſon

" poiſon for me? that is a womaniſh treaſon?—Or " would you murder me in my bed? an adultreſs " could do that.---Or have you hid a dagger to ſtab " me ſecretly? that is the deed of a ruffian.---Rather " act like a ſoldier; act like a man, and fight with " me hand to hand; that your treaſon may at leaſt " be free from baſeneſs."

At theſe words the traitor, as if he had been ſtruck with a thunderbolt, fell at his feet, and implored his pard n. " Fear nothing: you ſhall not ſuffer any evil from me;" replied the king, and kept his word.

Adventures of an Engliſh MERCHANT, *who was baniſhed for life to Siberia.*

AN Engliſh merchant ſettled at Peterſbourg, being convicted of carrying on a criminal correſpondence with the enemies of the ſtate, was condemned to perpetual baniſhment in the deſerts of Siberia. As his factors were accomplices in his guilt, they alſo ſhared the ſame puniſhment. Though he relates leſs what he ſaw than what he ſuffered, his account of this horrid place is not the leſs entertaining.

Our journey was not ſufficiently toilſome to be reckoned as part of our ſufferings. After travelling ſome days through a frozen country, where the thickneſs of the ſnow prevented our diſtinguiſhing the colour of the ground, we arrived at the borders of a great lake, which our guards called Lengekir, where we found ſledges provided for the reſt of our journey, loaded with proviſions; and the firſt care of our guards was t remark to us that their intention was to treat us with humanity. In fact, except the rigour of the cold, from which even the fires that we kept conſtantly burning could not preſer e us, we ſuffered but little during the three weeks that we travelled on the ice and ſnow in theſe ſledges.

During this long journey, we met with nothing to vary the ſcene, and leſſen our uneaſineſs. The lake not being wide enough to conceal from our ſight its ſhores, we perceived on both ſides only vaſt plains covered with ſnow, without the leaſt appearance of inhabitants. On the twenty-third day, the acclamations of our guards adverti ſed us of ſome change, and the ſight which we immediately beheld, ſpared them the trouble of explaining to us the cauſe of their joy. The lake having inſenſibly grown narrower, we diſcovered at the foot of a hill ſome towers of a prodigious heighth, whoſe ſummits were covered with gibbets, on which hung vaſt numbers of wretches, who had apparently deſerved this puniſhment for their crimes. Our guards explained to us the meaning of this ſpectacle. The city, which we approached, being the abode of a great number of exiles, this dreadful ſpectacle was intended to put them in mind that they had themſelves merited the ſame puniſhment; and that in ſuffering them to live, the government beſtowed on them a favour of which they were unworthy. Our guards acquainted us that this warning concerned us alſo, and exhorted us to profit by ſo terrible an example.

We were not long before we gained the ſhore, and after travelling on foot about two leagues, arrived at the city, which anſwered the dreadful idea we had conceived of it at a diſtance. Nature ſeemed to have forgot it in the diſtribution of its bleſſings. The ſun was, indeed, ſeen there, but benefit was not reaped from its genial warmth, and ſcarcely any from its light; for the ray always falling obliquely, the inhabitants owed their day almoſt entirely to the whiteneſs of the ſnow. At our firſt entrance into the city, we miſtook the houſes for dens of wild beaſts. The ſtreets were as deſert and frozen as the country. The only mark by which we could expect to find inhabi-

tants,

tants, was the ſmoke which iſſued through the tops of the thatched roof.

Our guards, who were already acquainted with this diſmal place, carried us directly to the governor. He received us humanely, but being deſirous to inform himſelf of our crimes and our ſentences, that he might regulate his treatment of us accordingly, gave orders for us to be removed to a diſtant part of the town, till he determined our fate. At length his orders came, which condemned us to paſs the remainder of our lives in the woods, in purſuit of the wild beaſts, of which this country was full.

I acknowledge that my conſtancy, which had hitherto ſupported me tolerably, now forſook me at once, and gave place to the moſt horrid deſpair. I could no longer contain my tears. So ſhocking a fate ſeemed more dreadful than death itſelf. I reſolved to make away with myſelf, if I could not obtain a mitigation of my ſentence, and conjured my guards, on my knees, to grant me a moment's liberty to throw myſelf at the governor's feet. This favour was not refuſed me: I appeared before the arbiter of my fate. Senſible of my infirmities, and that I could be of but little ſervice in the woods, he conſented to permit me to live at Ciangut, the name of the city, or rather miſerable village, in which he himſelf dwelt. I in vain implored the ſame favour for my companions, they were obliged to ſet out, and I had the mortal regret of ſeeing us ſeparated, as I imagined, for ever.

My puniſhment thus received ſome ſmall alleviation, but I was not the leſs conſidered as a criminal by the inhabitants of Ciangut. I was ſoon informed, by the governor's order, that I muſt ſet about expiating my crimes by ſome other puniſhments. They were leſs rigorous, indeed, but they appeared to me ſo humiliating, that my pride operating ſtill more ſtrongly than my firſt apprehenſions, I again thought of mur-

dering myſelf. I was, according to the cuſtom of Ruſſia, to enter into the ſtate of life the moſt contrary to that of my birth, and in which I had always before lived.

I had exerciſed the profeſſions of a merchant thirty years with the diſtinction peculiar to the Engliſh, that is to ſay in the midſt of abundance and pleaſure, free, independant, ſerved by a number of clerks and domeſtics; in ſhort, poſſeſſed of every thing that could render life agreeable and happy. I was to be employed in cleaning ſhoes, conſequently forced to condeſcend to the meaneſt employments to gain a livelihood, and ſubject to the authority of ſome wretches who had an abſolute command over thoſe who were condemned to this lot. But, to conſole me for this ſhocking diſgrace, inſtances were told me of an infinite number of perſons of greater conſequence than myſelf, who had ſhared the ſame fate. This conſideration inſpired me with patience. In fact, I had not been long at Ciangut before I got acquainted with above a hundred perſons of diſtinction, who had much greater reaſon to complain than I had, from the vaſt difference between their preſent and their former condition. I ſaw generals reduced to private ſoldiers, judges of the chief tribunal of all Ruſſia forced to be all their lives executioners, noblemen of the firſt rank degraded to ſervants; in ſhort, the moſt inſupportable ſubverſion of the eſtabliſhed order of nature and providence.

However, my own experience leſſened my aſtoniſhment, and I became familiarized to my miſery ſooner than I could have imagined poſſible. I made acquaintance with ſome of theſe illuſtrious criminals; they received my offers of friendſhip with joy, and related to me the hiſtory of their misfortunes; and, whether from cuſtom or ſtrength of mind, they almoſt all teſtified a moſt extraordinary reſignation of their bad fortune.

rune. Perhaps this conſtancy is to be attributed to the blind ſentiments of reſpect and ſubmiſſion which the Muſcovites entertain for their ſovereign; that is to ſay, to the ſame motives which induce the Turks to ſubmit their necks, without murmuring, to the ſabre or bow-ſtring of the ſultan's mutes. Like them, they ſeemed perſuaded that a ſentence of death pronounced by their Czar, is a certain paſſport to heaven.

But theſe religious ideas, which I at firſt admired, ſoon after occaſioned my ruin. I had never found any inconvenience at Peterſburgh from my being a member of the church of England, and I flattered myſelf I ſhould enjoy liberty of conſcience in my exile alſo. In fact, I was free ſo long as the people did not miſtruſt that I thought differently from them in religious matters; but it was impoſſible they ſhould not remark my being always abſent from church; and beſides, I never thought of ſaving appearanees.

It was privately rumoured that I was an Heretic. I ſoon perceived every one avoid me with marks of fear and horror. Some exiles, whoſe friendſhip I imagined I had acquired, ſhunned me, and, to compleat my misfortune, the maſters on whom I depended began to treat me more rigorouſly. I was long ignorant of the cauſe of this new diſgrace. At laſt two Greek Papas, or prieſts, having one day taken me aſide, aſked me, in a very preſſing manner, whether it was true that I was an Heretic? I anſwered ingenuouſly, that I was a member of the church of England, and would die in that communion. No violence ſhall be done you, replied they meekly enough; but we were ordered by the governor to enquire concerning your faith, and to inform you, that if you refuſe to embrace our religion, you ſhall be baniſhed to the woods for life.

I complained bitterly of this menace; I aſked whether the ſentence of the court mentioned that I muſt

change

change my religion? They allowed that it contained nothing reſpecting that article; but the governor, had an abſolute authority over the exiles, being ſtrongly attached to the Greek church, would not ſuffer any other at Ciangut; ſo that the principal reaſon theſe good Papas uſed to convert me, was the will of their maſter. My eyes were then opened with regard to the conduct of the inhabitants for ſome time paſt, and I became ſenſible of what I had to fear from the blind zeal of an ignorant populace. Perhaps I ſhould have been leſs timid, if I had only death to fear; but, beſides the ſtrange humiliation of my condition, I reflected that my lot was become more dreadful than ever, by the inhabitants refuſing to hold the leaſt communication with me. What could I imagine more terrible in the woods? On the contrary, I might hope to meet with my companions. I repented a thouſand times my having quitted them. So that, without oppoſing in the leaſt the declaration I had heard, I begg'd as a favour to be baniſhed from Ciangut, to dwell among wild beaſts in the midſt of immenſe foreſts.

The governor, ſurpriſed at my reſolution after the preſſing entreaties which I had before made for the remiſſion of this part of my ſentence, deſired to ſee me himſelf. I was conducted into his preſence, and my adventure having made ſome noiſe in the city, the governor's lady, and ſome others, had the curioſity to be preſent. Notwithſtanding the ſhabbineſs of my cloaths, and the languid air which miſery had implanted on my countenance, I was induced, at the ſight of ſo many amiable ladies, to recollect ſome remains of my natural politeneſs. The governor, tho' very humane in appearance, was inflexible; but the ladies were ſo affected with my courage, which made me prefer, rather than change my religion, to live amongſt wild beaſts; that they all united their entreaties to incline him to ſhew me favour. He obſtinately

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rejected their applications, and I obſerved that they ſeemed chagrined at his want of complaiſance.

I departed the next morning, guarded by two ſoldiers, and travelled about two leagues. I thought my misfortune ſo certain, that wiſhes ſeemed uſeleſs, I did not even form any for a change of my fortune. However, the aſſiſtance of heaven was never before ſo near me. My guards ſtopped at the entrance of a foreſt, told me my journey was at an end, and acquainted me with an happineſs that I had not the leaſt reaſon to expect.

The governor's lady, piqued at the obſtinate refuſal of her huſband, did not wait my departure to ſatisfy her reſentment. Some of the ladies who had ſhewn compaſſion for my misfortunes entered into her views, and reſolved to procure me my liberty. To gain my guards ſeemed the moſt natural ſtep, and they ſucceeded therefore ſo well, that theſe men teſtified as much affection for me as they were capable of, and ſerved me as much through inclination as through motives of intereſt.

After having diſcovered to me the governeſs's deſign, they explained the firſt meaſures that had been taken to provide for my ſafety. The preceding night they had brought into the foreſt a covered ſledge, which they had left for my uſe until the ladies ſhould further determine how to proceed. Thdy had alſo brought proviſions ſufficient for ſeveral days, for theſe vaſt deſerts are almoſt wholly uninhabited. My guards conducted me to the ſledge, which was hid amongſt the foliage; we there took ſome refreſhment, and, to compleat my joy, they aſſured me that the governor's lady, with three of her friends, would viſit me in the afternoon, under pretence of taking a walk together.

I received this generous viſit. My tranſports of gratitude were ſo lively and tender, that their inclination to do me ſervice was heightened ſtill more. I

was

was firſt obliged to ſatisfy their curioſity concerning my country, and occaſion of my misfortunes. I had nothing ſhameful to reproach myſelf with, and, as the recital of my ſtory was proper only to excite compaſſion, it produced that effect upon the ladies. I beheld them as much affected with my ſad fate, as if they had been my relations. We conſulted together about the means of putting an end to my ſlavery; wha ever aſſiſtance they could procure me, there were not the leaſt hopes that a ſtranger, who had only once traveled from Peterſburgh to Ciangut, ſhould be able to find the way through the vaſt countries that ſeparate theſe two cities. There were ſtill leſs, to expect that I ſhould arrive at Europe, by other roads entirely unknown to me. Theſe difficulties concerned me only: but the ladies were not leſs uneaſy for themſelves. It was neceſſary to form a plauſible reaſon for the ſpeedy return of my guards, otherwiſe our ſecret could laſt no longer than their abſence. It would be, perhaps, an eaſy matter to perſuade the governor that I had died on the road; but being ſo near Ciangut, ſome accident might diſcover my retreat, and I ſhould then not only become a prey, a ſecond time, to the misfortunes from which I flattered myſelf I was now delivered; but I ſhould alſo expoſe the governor's lady to her huſband's reſentment. On the other hand, I could not go farther without renouncing all aſſiſtance, and conſolation; and if I muſt live in a dreadful ſolitude amidſt foreſts and wild beaſts, what ſignified freedom, when I had nothing more terrible to fear from ſlavery?

Fortunately I recollected the four companions of my exile, two of whom were Engliſhmen, one a Swede, and the other a Muſcovite. I propoſed to the governor's lady to ſend the two ſoldiers in ſearch of them, with orders to bring them back free to us. All my difficulties were ſurmounted by this project; for this

this journey of my guards would prevent the governor from ſuſpecting their fidelity, and the return of my companions gave me hopes of being able to make my eſcape with them, through the moſt difficult, winding, and unfrequented paths. Beſides, I made no doubt but, among ſlaves who tremble at the very name of their maſters, the lady's order would be reſpected as much as that of the governor himſelf.

My guards ſet out. I ſtayed with the ladies, who gave me freſh marks of their compaſſion and eſteem. My miſerable condition did not prevent my being ſenſible of the charms of the youngeſt; but I rejected a ſentiment that ſuited my preſent ſtate ſo ill. They all promiſed to provide carefully for my neceſſities, and to renew their viſits frequently. The ſoldiers had required only eight days to perform their journey. This time was ſo ſhort, that I really thought my misfortunes almoſt entirely at an end.

I therefore, without regret, ſaw my charitable deliverers depart, being ſufficiently conſoled with the hopes of ſeeing them again. As night approached, I drew near my ſledge, which was to defend me from the injuries of the weather. Its ſhape greatly reſembled the body of a chariot, but with this difference, that being covered with bear-ſkins, and having a very narrow door, a man of my age could reſiſt the cold through his own natural heat. It was, notwithſtanding, ſo light, that I could move it with one hand with eaſe, for it was now the fineſt ſeaſon in the year, and the ſun had ſufficient power to melt the ſnow, even in the foreſts. Yet the nights were ſo cold, that I did not wait till dark before I entered my ſledge; and having carefully faſtened the door, endeavoured to compoſe myſelf to reſt. My ſituation was not ſo uneaſy, but ſleep ſoon overpowered my ſenſes, and I ſlept for ſome hours as ſoundly as I ſhould have done in the beſt bed.

My

My repoſe was of a ſudden diſturbed by the violent agitation of my ſledge. I awaked in a fright; but not being able to gueſs any other cauſe of this accident, than the motions one ſometimes gives oneſelf in ſleep. I had not the miſtruſt of the new misfortune that threatened me. After ſome moments of tranquillity, I felt my dwelling begin to ſhake again, and the blows were ſoon redoubled with ſuch a force as to overturn the ſledge. I heard no other noiſe than a continual ſcratching againſt the planks of my cage. My uneaſineſs was beyond expreſſion. Fear obliged me to keep my hands continually preſſing againſt the door, leſt it ſhould burſt open; and this, joined to the uneaſy poſture I was in, owing to the ſledge being overturned, made me paſs five or ſix hours in the utmoſt torment. At length the ſcratchings and agitation ceaſed; but I had not the courage to leave my priſon, even when I perceived the return of day. As I had proviſions ſufficient to ſubſiſt on for ſome time, and I received air through a loop-hole that ſerved alſo to convey light, I reſolved to wait, in this ſituation, the return of the ladies, or my guards.

The governor's lady viſited me before night, in company with the former ladies; and the noiſe of their carriages, which I heard at a diſtance, diſſipated all my fear. I haſtily quitted my ſledge to avoid the raillery that I muſt have expected to have undergone, if they had been witneſſes of my weakneſs. I even heſitated whether I ſhould mention my adventure, and eſpecially my fright; but though I had eſcaped the danger, I conſidered that it might return the next night, and a little counſel would not be uſeleſs; I therefore related coolly what had happened. They heard my ſtory more ſeriouſly than I expected, and augmented my uneaſineſs by acquainting me with the cauſe of my fright. The bears, and other ravenous beaſts, ſaid they, attacked you laſt night; we adviſe

you

you never to quit your ſledge after ſun-ſet, and to faſten the door ſecurely. The bears herd in vaſt troops in the foreſt of Siberia, they are fierce and cruel when preſſed by hunger, and ſome winters penetrate even into the town in ſearch of prey. This thirſt of blood diminiſhes vaſtly in ſummer, becauſe, in that ſeaſon, they find an infinite number of timid animals to prey upon; but they are always ſufficiently dangerous to be guarded againſt, and travellers have no enemies more dreadful in the foreſts. However, the ladies revived my courage by aſſuring me, that I ought to make myſelf eaſy in my ſledge, for there had never been an inſtance that the hunters (who never lodge otherwiſe) had received the leaſt injury from them. I paſſed the following night without uneaſineſs; and ſeeing nothing in my fate but what promiſed an happy futurity, I devoted myſelf with leſs reſerve to the pleaſure of entertaining the ladies. The manner in which they received my civilities made me judge that gallantry was not known in theſe frozen and barbarous climates. She, whoſe charms I have already mentioned, quickly perceived that I gave her the preference. Her eyes ſpoke a thouſand things which I explained in my favour, and found means before her departure, to obtain more certain proofs of her ſentiments.

I was no ſooner alone, than, caſting my eyes on the ſledge, that ſerved me for an habitation, on my cloaths, which were in rags, in ſhort, reflecting on all the circumſtances of my fortune, I could not refrain from laughing at my inclination to love, at a time when I wanted even the common neceſſaries of life. Is love then more ſweet than life; (exclaimed I, wondering at what paſſed in my ſoul) and how does a ſpark of love at once fill me with joy, in a ſituation that before made me regard life as a burden? Without ſeeking father the cauſe of this prodigy, I determined

mined to reap from it all the advantage that my good fortune offered me, to render my condition more comfortable. I re-entered my ſledge, filled with theſe charming ideas, and paſſed ſome hours with more ſatisfaction than ſuited the misfortune which was at hand.

The bears failed not to rerurn in the middle of the night. I was not much afraid of them, ſince the information I had received from the ladies, and imagined the greateſt harm they could do me, was breaking my reſt. In fact, at firſt they only ſhook my ſledge, and I expected to experience, till day-light, the ſame ſcene as the preceding night. I had accuſtomed myſelf imperceptibly to the motion, when I perceived that the ſledge was forced along with great velocity; and, to judge of the diſtance by the rapidity of the motion, that I ſhould ſoon be a great way from the place whence I ſet out. I at firſt thought it was a trick of the ladies, who had a mind to divert themſelves at my expence. But what probability that in the middle of the night, and two leagues diſtance from Ciangut, they ſhould venture to hazard their health, and even their lives, to divert themſelves with my fright! This reflection brought the true cauſe into my mind. I miſtruſted the bears. The ropes that ſerved to pull the ſledge hung down to the ground. I doubted not but theſe animals, who were very cunning, had laid hold of them with their teeth, in order to drag me into the midſt of the foreſts.

I recommended myſelf to heaven, for nothing elſe could ſave me from ſo preſſing a danger. The thought alone of a troop of famiſhing bears, who carried me off with this violence and obſtinacy, was capable of depriving me of my ſenſes. I fancied already the ſledge torn into a thouſand pieces, and thoſe cruel beaſts piercing me with their bloody fangs and talons. The terror I felt from this idea, extorted from me

cries,

cries, or more properly howlings, which frightened the bears away. I judged ſo at leaſt, by the ceaſing of the motion for ſome minutes; and coming to myſelf a little, I ventured to flatter myſelf that heaven had heard my prayers; but they ſoon returned again. My deſpair was renewed with the danger. I thought myſelf utterly loſt. My cries were uſeleſs, and I had no other object before my eyes, except a dreadful kind of death, which I imagined inevitable.

I was not dragged any farther, but the ſcratchings and agitation laſted all night. This delay of my fate, did not revive my hopes, I was perſuaded, on the contrary, that the day would return only to enlighten my laſt moments; and that in the remote and deſart ſpot, wherein I muſt be after half an hour's journey, it would be the eaſier for the wild beaſts to tear me from my aſylum, by the aſſiſtance of day-light. Day broke in at laſt; the firſt rays of light which entered through the loop-holes, inſpired me with courage to look out; but the openings were ſo ſmall, that I could not diſcover my beſiegers. Perhaps they fled at the very earlieſt dawn of day. At leaſt it was natural to conclude ſo, from the repoſe I enjoyed till evening. But I confeſs this did not revive my courage; and I paſſed the whole day in ſuch a ſtate of depreſſion, that I never even thought of taking the leaſt nouriſhment.

My only hopes were, that the governor's lady and her companions, not finding me in the ſame place where they left me, would readily gueſs at my misfortune, and uſe their utmoſt endeavours to find me out. In theſe hopes I reſolved not to ſtir out of my ſledge. However, night came on, and I ſaw no ſigns of aſſiſtance. My torments were renewed as ſoon as it grew dark; and continued till day-light. In the morning I found myſelf ſo weak, that neceſſity forced me to have recourſe to my ſtock of proviſions. Afterwards

wards I continued to flatter myſelf, as I had done the day before; the ladies from whom I had received ſuch generous favours would not have the cruelty to abandon me to my unhappy fate. In fact, they thought of me, but the ſucceſs of their endeavours did not anſwer their deſires, any more than mine.

In ſhort, I paſſed a whole week in the ſledge, ſometimes a prey to deſpair, ſometimes a dupe to hope, fancying every night my deſtruction certain; whenever I recove ed from my fears, I formed proſpects for the next day, which I had not ſtrength to execute.

Hunger was the means that heaven employed to open unexpected ways of ſafety. My proviſions were not ſufficient to laſt longer than five or ſix days; towards the end of the fourth, I conſidered, that if I perſiſted longer in ſtaying in my aſylum, it would be too late to quit it when I abſolutely wanted proviſions; for ſuppoſing I eſcaped the fangs of the wild beaſts, which ever way I went, I could not expect a foreſt of firs, and other timber trees, could afford me any nouriſhment. Notwithſtanding the force of this reflection, the impreſſion of my fears was ſo great, that I conſumed all my proviſions before I could reſolve to open the door of the ſledge. I even faſted entirely the ſixth day, uncertain what ſteps to take, and ſtill depending on the generoſity of the Ruſſian ladies. But I was ſenſible at laſt that I muſt periſh one way or other; and of the two kinds of death which heaven left to my choice, extreme hunger convinced me that the fangs of wild beaſts were leaſt dreadful. Beſides death, this way, was not quite ſo certain; for my ſtrength was already ſo exhauſted, that I could ſcarcely walk.

I therefore quitted my ſledge. My firſt ſteps were tottering, and I knew not whether this was more the effect of my terror, than my weakneſs. I obſerved, a moment, the tracks of the bear on the ſtrand, and the

marks

marks they had left on my habitation. The leather that covered it was miserably torn. I owe my life only to the planks, the thickness of which had preserved me, though made of the lightest wood. The ropes had been bitten through by the terrible teeth of my enemies; and what little remained, bore the marks of their savage fury. This sight froze my very blood.

As it was about noon, the sun, then in its full power, revived my strength a little, and made me hope that the wild beasts, which had always chose night to torment me, could not incommode me in open day light. But which way to turn me? Tho' the place I was in was an open spot, at some distance from me, I saw on all sides forest of trees, as antient as the creation; among which I could not enter without a renewal of my horror. Besides, I remarked that I was in a valley, and every way surrounded by hills. Deliberation was useless to a man entirely ignorant of astronomy. I hastily pursued the rout that seemed least difficult, as if nothing could be of more consequence than to get at a distance from my sledge, and that the bears were only to be dreaded in the valley. I gained the summit of a small hill, on which I was forced to rest me on the grass through feebleness. Happily I had left a little strong liquor that I had saved as a late resource. I was going to swallow it, when I perceived round me a great number of mushrooms; some of which I gathered, and dipped in my liquor, and considering this wild food as a favour of heaven, I made a meal which excessive hunger rendered delicious.

Doubt who will of providence, I, who experienced in this succour a sensible effect of its care, profess to devote to it a life which it has preserved. It seemed to me from this moment to take me by the hand, to conduct me through the most dreadful perils. I found

myſelf ſo ſtrengthened by this ſtrange repaſt, that I did not heſitate to purſue my journey; I reſolved to climb a tree at ſun-ſet, and remain there all night. I took with me all the muſhrooms I could find; ſo ſimple a nouriſhment having been capable to renew my ſtrength. I made no doubt but a number of herbs and roots might be of the ſame uſe in caſe of neceſſity. I find myſelf, ſaid I, in the ſtate of man, when firſt created. Mankind, at firſt, knew but little what was proper for their food. They could owe this knowledge to experience alone. I may acquire it the ſame way.

Buſied with this reflection, I walked with ardour. But when all was ſtill round me, of a ſudden I heard the ſhrill howlings of ſome unknown beaſts. Terror ſeized me afreſh. I climbed a neighbouring tree, and was not two minutes in gaining the top; the ſun was ſtill high above the horizon. How great was my ſurprize to perceive at firſt ſight, the towers of Ciangut, which did not ſeem further diſtant than about two leagues! I reproached myſelf bitterly for not having ſooner thought of thus reconnoitring the environs; and during the firſt emotions of my joy, I was induced to deſcend from the tree, without remembering the wild beaſts which had cauſed my terror. Yet they were at the foot of the tree. This unexpected ſight ſo greatly terrified me, that loſing my hold, I tumbled into the midſt of them, and cruſhed one by the fall. The reſt fled, to appearance frightened, as much as myſelf; and I remained ſome moments ſtretched out cloſe to that which I had killed, without recollecting that it was out of his power to hurt me. At laſt, ſeeing it motionleſs, I raiſed myſelf up ſoftly, and turned towards Ciangut.

Scarcely had I walked an hundred yards, before another noiſe, but too luckily to afford me cauſe of complaint, occaſioned me ſome moments of terror. I thought

thought that I heard the voices of ſeveral perſons diſcourſing together with warmth. But it was enough that they were men to inſpire me with confidence. I joined them in a moment, and by a miracle more incredible ſtill, than what I have already related, found they were my fellow exiles.

Having arrived, in leſs than eight days, with two ſoldiers, at the place where my guards had left me; ſurpriſed not to find me, they had waited there ſome time, and had ſeen the ladies of Ciangut, who had given them the beſt account in their power of my misfortune. Their grief had induced them to try for ſeveral days, every poſſible method to aſſiſt me. Under a pretence of hunting, they had ſent into the foreſts truſty perſons, whoſe ſearches had proved fruitleſs. They had fired ſeveral ſhots which my unhappy fortune permitted me not to hear. The young lady who entertained ſome favourable ſentiments for me, ſeemed greatly afflicted at their want of ſucceſs; eſpecially when, upon interrogating my companions, ſhe heard them confirm every circumſtance that I had related of my birth, fortune and character. However, the governor's lady, not being able to conceive how a man and a ſledge ſhould both entirely diſappear, was not diſcouraged at the inutility of theſe firſt attempts. She was deſirous that the two ſoldiers, and my four exiled companions, ſhould remain ſome time near the ſpot where I had been laſt ſeen; and uſe their utmoſt endeavours, day and night, to diſcover the place of my retreat. This employment did not ſeem laborious to perſons juſt returned from hunting the moſt ferocious animals, and who had paſſed ſo many nights in bad ſledges. They had begun to put in execution this order, the very day that I had the happineſs to meet with them. They were the perſons who had chaſed the animals which had given me ſuch a terror.

My joy at finding my companions ſcarcely exceeded my ſenſe of the Ruſſian ladies goodneſs. I teſtified my gratitude for their favours in the moſt ardent manner, and they received my teſtimonies of it in ſuch a manner as to encreaſe it if poſſible; and carried their complaiſance ſo far as to detain us above ſix months in the foreſt of Ciangut. At length, when the Czarina, after the death of her huſband Peter the Great, recalled all thoſe exiles from the deſerts of Siberia, who were not ſent there for capital crimes, we were obliged to take our leave of them; and we flatter ourſelves, that our departure was regretted by them, as we, on our parts, ſhall ever preſerve the moſt lively remembrance of their kindneſs.

The POWER *of* SCOLDING: *a Tale.*

FRIEND Benedict has got a wife,
Whoſe hand he took to ſweeten life,
Her father gave her ſtore of gold,
Her mother learnt her how to ſcold,
In this ſhe has ſuch progreſs made,
To be quite miſtreſs of the trade:
Betty one day was waſhing up
The china, and ſhe broke a cup,
Her lady heard the pieces clatter,
And ſtrait ran in to know the matter;
The broken cup, the miſchief ſhowing,
Soon ſet her wond'rous clack a going,
It went ſo very loud and clear,
The ſervants left the room for fear;
But as they frighten'd ran away,
One touch'd her little lap-dog, Tray,
The cur ſhriek'd out, ſhe heard the noiſe,
With double fury rais'd her voice;
The tables, china, chairs and glaſſes,
All animated, left their places;

Things

Things ſcarcely mov'd from year to year,
Skipp'd thro' the room, as if for fear;
The ſcene was mighty odd and droll,
To ſee one after t'other roll:
The room near empty, ſhe ſtill ſcolding,
Stun'd Benedict a while beholding,
Who begg'd, at laſt, her tongue ſhe'd ſtay,
For fear the houſe ſhould run away:
Juſt then were ſtalking thro' the room,
The mops, the bruſhes, and long broom,
She took the latter, broke his head,
And laid poor Benedict for dead.
He motionleſs, in bloody plight,
Soon put his Peggy in a fright,
Not becauſe ſhe'd her huſband loſt,
But leaſt her neck ſhould pay the coſt;
Security was needful next,
For which ſhe on this project fix'd:
Juſt o'er his head a ham there hung,
Which had kept motion with her tongue;
On ſeeing that ſuſpended ſwing,
And only faſtened by a ſtring,
She thumpt it till it tumbled down,
And laid it by him on the ground.
Then, throwing by the guilty broom,
She ran diſtracted round the room,
Ringing her cap from off her head,
And ſcreaming out, "he's dead, he's dead."
The ſervants heard her ſpeak of death,
Came running in, all out of breath——
Juſt then to his ſhe laid her cheek,
And, bubling cry'd, "my heart will break,
"Ah! cruel ham, thus to deſtroy,
"My dear, dear huſband, life and joy;
"Where is the wretch, O tell me where,
"That plac'd the ham to kill my dear?——

" Oh! could I bring him back to life,
" I'd be the kind indulgent wife,
" But that's a wiſh the gods deny,
" Nor will they with him let me die.
" Since tears of grief for ever muſt
" Flow from my eyes, I will be juſt
" To this dear man, nor ever name
" A foible, that ſhall hurt his fame.
" I cannot now a loſs ſuſtain,
" That ere will give me cauſe for pain;
" Since he is gone I lov'd moſt dear,
" There's nothing left that merit's care."
This ſpoke, ſhe from the room was led,
And ſtrait conducted up to bed;
There fell into a ſound repoſe,
And in the morning early roſe;
Sent John to call the mantua-maker,
The mercer, taylor, undertaker:
They ſoon obey'd, the meſſage ſent,
Got orders, and away they went,
To make all ready, that were fit,
To lay her huſband in the pit.
All things were finiſh'd in great haſte,
And in the coffin he was plac'd;
His wife intended the next day,
To put his carcaſe in the clay;
Which certainly had been his fate,
But for the thing I'll now relate;
She told her boy (whoſe name was Page)
To feed poor-Poll and clean the cage;
He, with the parrot went to play,
And let the pris'ner fly away.
When this was to his miſtreſs told,
She did ſo ſtamp! ſo rave! ſo ſcold!
Wiſh'd things unhuman to the boy,
And vow'd ſhe wou'd the houſe deſtroy!
The ſervants, goods, and what were near,
Abſconded, as before, for fear;

The

The houſe it ſhook, the fires blaz'd,
Her huſband wak'd, like one amaz'd;
Forc'd from his wooden trunk its lid,
And frighten'd from the priſon fled,
Down ſtairs he ran, got to the door,
His Peggy ſaw him, ſcream'd the more,
And quickly would the houſe have ſplit,
Had not ſhe fell into a fit:
The ſcolding ceas'd, the ſervants came,
Wond'ring what had got their dame,
Greatly frighten'd when they found
Her ſtretch'd and ſilent on the ground;
Some took her hands, ſome rais'd her head,
But all concluded ſhe was dead!
Poor Benedict, tho' in his ſhroud,
Was buſieſt of the frighten'd crowd,
He ran for water for her face,
But tumbled down and broke the glaſs!
Whilſt this miſchance, he was ſupplying,
His wife reviv'd, and fell a crying;
Aſtoniſh'd to behold again,
A man ſhe had ſo lately ſlain,
Guilt, conſcious guilt, now touch'd her heart,
For acting the tyrannic part;
Her huſband ſaw her inward pain,
And ſaid, "my dear, your tears refrain."
This tender ſpeech ſo ſtrongly wrought,
It from her this confeſſion brought:
"If you, my patient, injur'd love,
"Will not a guilty wife reprove,
"My former errors I'll repent,
"And henceforth be a penitent,
"As wife I'll ever ſtand in awe,
"And your commands ſhall be my law."
This vow ſhe keeps, has left her airs,
And now her ſpouſe the breeches wears.

The ENCHANTED TOWER *at Toledo.*

AT the diſtance of half a league from Toledo are ſeen the ruins of an enchanted tower, or rather of an old caſtle, which is ſaid to be part of the ruins of an enchanted palace. It is between two very high rocks, concerning which the Spaniards tell the following ſtory:

That in this caſtle there was a cave, ſhut up with this prediction, that if it was ever opened, ſome dreadful calamity would befall Spain. In conſequence of this, its inhabitants were long in fear, that this laſt prophecy ſhould be fulfilled whenever this ſubterraneous place was opened; ſo that nobody had ever attempted to open it, till the time of King Roderigo, who, in 714, had the curioſity to examine the inſide of this cave in hopes of finding a treaſure there, by which he might be enabled to raiſe an army capable of oppoſing the invaſion of the Moors, who were upon the point of making deſcent upon the borders of the kingdom.

No ſooner was a man entered into this ſubterraneous cavern, but he heard a moſt frightful noiſe, reſembling that of thunder, as if the elements were juſt going to diſſolve in order to return to their antient chaos and confuſion. Roderigo, far from abandoning his enterpriſe, deſcends into the cavern, where, by the light of ſeveral flambeaus, he ſaw a variety of different figures of men with arms, and habits of a ſtrange ſort. Amongſt others, he ſaw a ſtatue which held in its hand a copper buckler, upon which the following words were engraved in Arabic characters, that "the time of the deſtruction of Spain being come, the originals of the images which he ſaw would quickly come alſo." The prediction took effect alſo; for ſoon after, the Moors of Africa laid waſte all

Spain,

Spain, and King Roderigo himſelf was killed in a battle.

Remarkable Bravery of an IRISH OFFICER, *at the Siege of Tortona in Italy.*

AT the ſiege of Tortona, the commander of the army which lay before the town, ordered Carew, an Iriſh officer in the ſervice of Naples, to advance with a detachment to a particular poſt. Having given his orders, he whiſpered to Carew, "Sir, I know you to be a gallant man; I have therefore put you upon this duty. I tell you in confidence, it is certain death for you all. I place you there to make the enemy ſpring a mine below you." Carew made a bow to the general, and led on his men in ſilence to the dreadful poſt. He there ſtood with an undaunted countenance, and having called to one of the ſoldiers for a draught of wine, "Here," ſaid he, "I drink to all thoſe who bravely fall in battle." Fortunately at that inſtant Tortona capitulated, and Carew eſcaped. But he had thus a full opportunity of diſplaying a rare inſtance of determined intrepidity. It is with pleaſure that I record an anecdote ſo much to the honour of a gentleman of that nation, on which illiberal reflections are too often thrown, by thoſe of whom it little deſerves them. Whatever may be the rough jokes of wealthy inſolence, or the envious ſarcaſms of needy jealouſy, the Iriſh have ever been, and will continue to be highly regarded upon the continent.

Hiſtory of THEODOSIA: *as related by herſelf in a Letter to the Printer.*

THE ſmile of proſperity once was mine; bred with tenderneſs, and bleſſed with affluence, gratitude to the Deity, and affection for a fond and only

only parent, were the perpetual and lively ſenſations of my happy heart.

My ſituation and connections brought me very early acquainted with a young gentleman, whoſe merit ſufficiently juſtified my attachment to him; but as he was a younger brother, and a handſome cure the only poſſeſſion of my father, our proſpects were by no means flattering.

He took orders, and five years elapſed in that friendſhip (pity and forgive the vanity of wretchedneſs) which delicate ſenſibility alone is capable of; he officiated for my father, called himſelf his ſon, and waited but for a proper opportunity to realize his claim.

My poor valuable father, by walking out late one cold evening from the moſt benevolent motives, contracted an alarming complaint: phyſicians were uſeleſs; and finding his diſſolution near, the tear of paternal anxiety bedewed his venerable cheek. Mr. Knightly underſtood its meaning, and with honeſt eloquence beſought him to be witneſs to our union, even in the moment of his departure. The thought was ſoothing. He raiſed his drooping head, and in the feeble accents of death, pronounced his approbation: the ceremony was performed; the laſt affecting farewel accompliſhed; he recommended my huſband to his patron, and died in full confidence of his ſucceeding him, and protecting me.

He died, happily deceived, as we his children for ſometime lived; for, in a fatal hour, an unfeeling creature arrived, produced his authority, and drove us from our aſylum.

Poverty---but poverty is too light an evil to find a place in my catalogue!---Our maariage was deemed an imprudence, and our want of proviſion a juſt puniſhment.

A noble-

A nobleman, known to my husband's family, at last most compassionately relieved us. A little living in America was, to people in our circumstances, an irresistable allurement. We embarked, were kindly received, and peace and plenty once more ours.

The goodness of my husband's heart rendered him an object of universal esteem; presents poured in from every quarter; a little boy and girl---Merciful God support me under the recollection!---the one six, the other seven years old, now prattled around us; our own sentiments, our tastes, in unison, never was domestic felicity superior to what was enjoyed.

It was, indeed, too much for mortality! but what a price!---Ye happy wives, ye happy mothers, enter, if it is possible, into the bitterness of my distress! I am a wife, a mother no longer; yet existence and sensibility remain!---All the horrors rise before me!---My husband massacred, my children slaughtered! I will, nevertheless---yes, severe as is the task, I will endeavour to relate the dreadful catastrophe.

The first friend we had made in the country, by a fall from her horse, was so dangerously ill, that I conceived it my duty to attend her. I had no forebodings of calamity; to the home I had quitted I had no idea but I should return. Well, well. Shall I dare to arraign the Creator of the universe.

At six o'clock the ensuing morning, an alarm reached us; a party of the most savage Indians had been abroad, and committed infinite devestation. My husband, my children! how my soul was agonized! In all the tortures of apprehension and suspence, I hastened to my beloved habitation: O, sir, that you could but guess the rest!

The court-yard was marked from end to end with blood; what became of me for some time I know not, but on the first dawn of recollection, I insisted on being re-conveyed to the horrible scene!---My mangled infants,

infants, not a trace of humanity in their late lovely countenances! My husband covered with wounds!---He however breathed, he moved; hope and despair, how violent their operations?

By proper assistance, his dear eyes were at length opened. My wife! my most esteemed wife! was laboriously articulated, I die in peace!---your person unviolated.---Had you been here---the injuries you would have sustained!---Heaven has been gracious, and I die in peace. He lived twelve hour, though totally insensible, and I beheld him expire.

What think you, sir, of a heart under these circumstances; a second marriage could you believe it possible for the utmost inhumanity to offer it such an insult; yet that I am this insulted wretch, is the cause of my troubling you with my misfortunes.

I returned to England. The captain of the ship became enamoured, during our passage, of my tears, and from superiority of fortune, brutally recommended a second husband to replace the loss of the first.

I had only one relation to receive me; a small sum of money was all that affliction had preserved, or justice spared; that money is now nearly exhausted, my relation is become a warm advocate for a mercenary sacrifice of my person, nay, has proceeded so far as to intimate, that I must seek a new situation, if I persist in my folly.

All principles of delicacy out of the question, let me ask you, what disposition I can have towards matrimony? My peace, my affections, my hopes, my dependencies, are lodged only in the grave; that I had escaped violation gave tranquillity to the husband of my choice in a moment of the greatest horror, nor will I affront his memory by legal prostitution.

It is true my spirits are broken, and my strength impaired; yet if there is on earth a sheltering roof to be obtained, I will exert the one, and employ the

other,

other, in the benevolent owner's ſervice.---O, ſir, will you not beſtow ſome humane conſideration on my complicated diſtreſs, and timely reſcue me from the depth of deſpair.

I am, ſir,

Your wretched humble ſervant,

THEODOSIA.

CURIOUS PROPOSITIONS, *with their Solutions.*

1. TO oblige all handſome women to follow you, if you are a man, and the rich gallants, if you are a woman.

2. To be ſure of a good reception wherever you you go, and it is infallible.

3. To make the woman you like run after you whereſoever you go, though you have never ſeen her but once in your life.

4. That men and women may grant all you ask of them.

5. To be rich and poſſeſs much money.

6. To come at any woman without ever failing.

7. That no cloaths you have may ever wear out.

8. That no hawk may fly away from you though you turn him looſe.

9. That you may never be troubled with the tooth-ach.

10. That you may never grow grey or old.

11. How a barren woman may have children.

12. To prevent taylors ſtealing your cloth or ſtuff.

13. That you may never die.

14. That you may never die without ſomebody to pray by you.

15. To be ſpeedily advanced to high poſts and places.

16. To be in great eſteem.

17. To

17. To prevent growing old.

18. To prevent diſcovering a bald pate, tho' you have never a hair on it, without wearing a wig.

19. That you may be ſucceſsful in all law-ſuits.

20. That you may never lie long ſick.

21. That the bugs may not bite you at night.

22. To be beloved by all men.

23. To prevent confeſſing on the rack—do not diſcover this to thieves or murderers.

24. To ſhake off all bolts and irons in priſons, tho' never ſo ſecure.

SOLUTIONS *to the foregoing.*

1. Beſure always to keep before them when they are going.

2. Give ſomething in every place, and you will find ſo good a reception that you will have no cauſe to repent.

3. Steal what ſhe has, and ſhe'll purſue you to the end of the world.

4. Deſire the women to take all you have, and the men to give you nothing, and they will all grant it.

5. If you have money keep it, and if you have not, do not covet it, and you will be rich enough.

6. If ſhe walks, put on; if ſhe puts on, run; if ſhe runs, fly; and you will ſoon come at her.

7. Tear them to rags yourſelf, and they will not wear.

8. Pull all his feathers, and he will not fly a jot.

9. Draw them all, though it be no ornament to the jaws.

10. Die when you are young or new born.

11. Let her conceive, and bring forth, and breed them up.

12. Let them make no cloaths for you, for that is the only remedy.

13. Be

13. Be not a fool, for only they die; unfortunate men are killed by the ſword, ſick men by their phyſicians, and fools die of their own accord.

14. Commit ſome heinous crimes, and at the gallows you will not want ſomebody to pray by you.

15. Get upon the Alps or Pyrenean mountains.

16. Get much money, live high, and treat all that come near you.

17. Keep always in the ſun in ſummer, and in the wet in winter; never give yourſelf reſt, fret at every thing that happens, eat your meat cold, and drink water, meddle in every body's buſineſs, for this is the ſure way never to come to be old.

18. Wear your hat eternally, don't take it off to go to bed; if another takes off his to you, requite him with a nod or bow, and if any body ſays you are unmannerly, tell him it is better to be ſo than bald. And if any one ſhould quarrel with you becauſe you are not civil, and ſhould happen to kill you, it is better ſtill to be dead than bald, and take care to die with your hat on, as Julius Cæſar did, to cover his head when they murdered him.

19. Never pay your counſellor, nor your ſolicitor, nor any fees of the court, for all that money is certainly loſt, and it is a daily charge upon you. And if you pay them and gain your cauſe, ſtill your money is gone, and if you are caſt, ſtill worſe. And take notice, that before you go to law, the controverſy is, whether the money is yours or another's, but when once the ſuit is begun, the contrivance is, that it be neither yours nor the others, but theirs who pretend to defend you both.

20. Send for your phyſician when you are well, and give him money, becauſe you are not ſick, for if you give it him when you are ill, how can you expect he ſhould give you health, which he gets nothing by, and remove the diſtemper he lives by.

21. Sit up all night, and go to bed by day.

22. Lend and never be paid, preſent, treat, bear, endure, do good turns, hold your peace, and ſuffer yourſelf to be cheated.

23. Deny all that is laid to your charge.

24. Pay the jailor and they will all drop off.

The agreeable Diſappointment.

A Certain jeweller had ſold the wife of Galienus the Emperor, counterfeit and glaſs gems for real ones. The Empreſs being told of the fraud, requeſted that he might have due puniſhment. The Emperor, having heard the complaint of his wife, commands the man to be dragged from his preſence, with this ſentence, That he ſhould be expoſed to a lion, to be torn in pieces. But while the impoſtor fearfully, and the people greedily expecting, that ſome fierce and terrible lion ſhould be let out of his den to devour him, the head of a man only appeared from the den, and it was a cryer, who, by the Emperor's order, proclaimed theſe words, "He has played the cheat, and now he is cheated himſelf."

Captain WILLIAM MONTAGUE'S *Joke paſſed on the Capt. of a Dutch Man of War.*

THE late Captain William Montague was a commander in the navy, and brother to the Earl of S———h. He was remarkable for his humour, and went by the name of mad Montague. Being at Portſmouth, when he commanded one of the King's ſhips, and where a Dutch man of war then lay, an accident happened to the latter by loſing her boat and all her people at Spithead in bad weather. Word therefore being brought to Montague, and that ſeveral of the dead bodies were driven aſhore on the beach, he ſent away

away his cockſwain and ſeveral of his people, to put the dead mens hands in their pockets. At dinner this misfortune was the ſubject, the Dutch Captain being in company, when Capt. Montague obſerved, that "they were drowned Dutchmen-like, with their hands in their pockets." It nettled Mynheer to ſuch a degree that he threatened to call him to an account. Montague laughing at his taking offence, ſwore "he would be damned if it was not ſo," and offered to bet fifty guineas to five, which being accepted by Mynheer, all the company, by agreement, after dinner, poſted away to the ſpot, where finding it to be as Montague had ſaid, the Dutchman was ſo aſhamed, that he went on board his ſhip and did not come on ſhore again, till they had convinced him it was only a piece of Montague's fun.

Inſtructions to Country Gentlemen, illuſtrated in the Hiſtory of K. G. a BROKEN GAMESTER.

AT the age of twenty-two, after having received a grammatical education, and obtained a tolerable knowledge of the claſſics, my father, who propoſed I ſhould follow his example, and remain an honeſt country gentleman, dying, I found myſelf in poſſeſſion of an improveable eſtate, that brought me in eight hundred a year. As he had ever been ſtrongly averſe to my viſiting the capital, and as our eſtate lay in York, it being impoſſible for me to gratify my curioſity this way, during my father's life; ſo that now, finding myſelf without controul the proprietor of ſo eaſy a fortune, I did not heſitate a moment, after performing the funeral obſequies due to a parent, to pay this long-deſired viſit.

Upon my arrival, I inquired for a genteel lodging; the waiter told my ſervant, the genteeleſt in the city was in King-ſtreet. A coach was accordingly called,

and I drove thither. Upon my arrival, I was accoſted by a gentlewoman, between forty and fifty, who ſeemed to me the eſſence of politeneſs. She complimented me upon the elegance of my figure, and my noble appearance, aſking me how long I had been from Paris? I muſt acknowledge the queſtion a good deal diſconcerted me, as I had ſcarce ever been out of my native country; and yet was aſhamed to acknowledge my ignorance of the polite world. The ruſticity of our dreſſes might ſurely have convinced her that we came from a very different quarter---but vanity is certainly the univerſal paſſion; and however forcibly we may ridicule it in others, there is not a man breathing, who is always proof againſt its well-pointed batteries. I was pleaſed, I will acknowledge, with the compliment, and thought it ſhewed great diſcernment in Mrs. M———n, our hoſteſs, to diſcover elegance under ſuch an ill-choſen habit.

Whilſt I remained here, I formed a variety of acquaintance. Thoſe who were the moſt uſeful and entertaining, I courted moſt vehemently. A German Doctor, who introduced me to ſome very fine women, whoſe viſits Mrs. M———n connived at; an Italian Count, who played angelically upon the German flute; a French Linguiſt, who was to teach me his language in a month; and a Welch Colonel, who was a profeſſed wit, blunderer and buffoon, formed my conſtant party. They dined, ſupped, and drank with me inceſſantly for a fortnight. At the end of this time, I found four hundred pounds, which I brought with me from the country, nearly exhauſted.

Having never been in want of money before, and knowing that my ſteward could not advance me any till the next quarter, I was under ſome depreſſion of ſpirits from this unexpected drain. The Colonel perceiving me dejected, aſked the reaſon, and I frankly told him. "By ——," ſaid he, "now you make

me

me laugh, to be dull for the want of a little ready caſh, when you may command all Lombard-ſtreet." He then told me, he would introduce me to a worthy gentleman of his acquaintance, who would let me have what money I wanted.

He accordingly called upon me the next day, and carried me to a certain coffee-houſe, where, after waiting ſome time, an elderly man ſhabbily dreſſed appeared, to whom the Colonel immediately addreſſed himſelf, and after a ſhort conference, introduced him to me.---" I underſtand, ſir, your buſineſs," ſaid the veteran.---" With ſuch gentlemen as you," continued he, " I make ſhort work---this gentleman has informed me who you are, and your bond will be ſufficient---What ſum do you want?"

Such politeneſs and urbanity in a ſtranger aſſailed my heart too forcibly, not to repent that I had been ſo long abſent from the metropolis, where nothing but diſintereſted kindneſs reigns. " Sir," I replied, " I flatter myſelf your great civility will not be ill required by me---five hundred, ſir, will ſuffice me for the preſent."

I had no ſooner ſpecified the ſum, than a bond was inſtantaneouſly filled up, and offered me to ſign; but perceiving the ſum one thouſand in it, I obſerved he had miſtaken, too generouſly miſtaken, my requeſt, for that I only wanted five hundred. " Oh, ſir," ſaid the Colonel, " that's only a matter of form, the bond is but for five hundred." I thought that matters of form were not to be objected to, and having ſigned it, the Colonel witneſſing it, with the waiter, the money was tendered to me. Upon examining it, I found it to conſiſt of only three hundred and thirty-four pounds. " Here is a miſtake, I am certain, Colonel." Upon which he took me aſide, and told me, " that in theſe caſes the intereſt, premium, douceur, and expence of the drawing of the bond, &c. were

always firſt ſubtracted, to prevent trouble afterwards—and that he was very certain that Mr. Gripe was a man of ſuch nice calculation, that the matter was adjuſted to a farthing."

Ignorant as I was of the world and its ways, I could not help now firſt thinking that Mr. Gripe was a very proper name for the gentleman who had ſo generouſly aſſiſted me; and I was reſolved for the future not to be obliged to him for his favours.

This was not the only kindneſs the Colonel ſoon conferred upon me. The next day he told me he would introduce me to ſome of the firſt people of faſhion in the kingdom. I who came to London to ſee the world, was glad of every opportunity of being upon the *bon ton*, as it is called.

This ſelect company conſiſted of half a dozen well dreſſed men, and as many women. Two quadrille-tables, and one whiſt-table, were already engaged, and as civility to a ſtranger, I was offered to be admitted to either. Quadrille is a game very little practiſed in our country, therefore I declined playing, and agreed to cut in a rubber of whiſt. My ſucceſs was aſtoniſhing, I held nothing but trumps and honours, and won ſix or ſeven rubbers ſucceſſively.

The ladies had by this time retired, and the quadrille partics broke up. The Colonel whiſpered to me, "Now was my time to make a puſh, as he had never ſeen ſuch luck in his life, and he would go my halves in whatever I laid." Encouraged by his advice, I made ſome conſiderable bets, and in leſs than an hour found I had loſt fifteen hundred pounds. I now looked about for the Colonel, in order to receive his ſhare; but not ſeeing him, inquired if he was gone, when I was informed by a tall rooke well known there, "that the Colonel was gone after the ſecond *rubbers*, and had declared off."

This

This was a language I was utterly unacquainted with; but was ſoon made to comprehend it, when the tall rooke paid me twenty-five pounds, as the Colonel's ſhare of the loſſes he had ſuſtained in the two firſt rubbers.

Theſe ſpecimens of the Colonel's friendſhip began to open my eyes---but at the next interview, he proteſted a fine woman of the firſt rank had ſent him a billet for a rendezvous; and, fearful of interrupting me in the warmth of the play, he had left the money with the tall rooke. This apology, however, did not render me leſs cautious of any future engagements with him, and I began to ſuſpect he was a man I ſhould avoid and deſpiſe.

In theſe ſentiments I opened my mind to a counſellor I had frequently met at Tom's; who no ſooner heard the names of the parties, than he pronounced them a gang of ſharpers, and adviſed me to proſecure them, and recover three times the ſum I had thus unfairly loſt.

My warmth was kindled at this information; and the villainy of the colonel wrought ſo ſtrongly upon me, that I gave orders for an immediate proſecution againſt the parties. My worthy counſellor entered heartily into the cauſe, and ſwore ſo bitterly againſt the infamy of the defendants, that I did not doubt ſoon recovering four thouſand five hundred pounds, to which he plainly made it appear I was entitled.

Law is not to be proſecuted without money; and Mr. Counſellor Feelwell never let any opportunity ſlip to adviſe the neceſſity of this nervous application. In four months, during the long vacation, Mr. Counſellor Feelwell had extracted ſeven hundred and eighty odd pounds, with the conſtant conſolation, that I ſhould not be a farthing of it out of pocket; when on the firſt day of term he came to me, ſeemingly in great confuſion, to acquaint me that the Colonel, the tall

Rooke, and all the reſt of the gang had abſconded, and were, according to the beſt intelligence he could obtain, gone over ſea.

This information threw me into the utmoſt conſternation, and I could not help heartily d——ning the counſellor for as great a raſcal as the villains he had pretended to proſecute. The counſellor would have apologized for his conduct, but I abruptly left him to chew the cud of my reſentment.

From theſe unexpected events, I had been obliged to make ſuch repeated drafts upon my ſteward, that he now wrote to me it was impoſſible to make me the remittance of a ſingle guinea, without a farther mortgage (one having, alas! already taken place for a large ſum) In this dilemma I foreſaw nothing but inevitable ruin, unleſs I cou'd apply the ready money to ſome conſiderable advantage.

Whilſt I was meditating at Toni's upon my future plan of operations, I was accoſted by a lawyer, with whom I had made ſome acquaintance, who told me, that he had now a fine opportunity of applying ſix or ſeven thouſand pounds, and that he could afford twenty per cent. (under the roſe) for the loan of ſuch a ſum. He pointed out to me the fluctuation of things and explained ſo clearly the advantage that muſt neceſſarily accrue from timely buying in and ſelling out, that I found already my property greatly increaſed, at the excellence of the project, and promiſed to furniſh him with the required ſum, if he could produce it by mortgage upon an eſtate double the value in York.

The lawyer knew his buſineſs too well to miſs this opportunity, and really acted in this affair very honeſtly, charging nothing but the common intereſt, beſides ſelling out at a diſadvantageous time, a premium for the eſtate being mortgaged, and a ſmall douceur for prompt payment; which, together with drawing

of

of the parchments, &c. did not amount to much above twelve per cent.

The reſidue of this mortgage I then placed in his hands, and for ſome time received the intereſt from it he had promiſed; when being down at York to look after a ſmall ſum which ſtill remained in my poſſeſſion, but did not require a ſtewardſhip to ſuperintend it, reading one fatal morning the Gazette, I ſaw my lawyer's name among the Whereas's.

A man of ſuch reputed affluence, ſuch unexampled probity, ſuch ſagacity and ſucceſs in buſineſs, ſo unexpectedly to fail, was a ſhock almoſt too great for humane nature to ſuſtain! A phrenzy ſeized me—my ſenſes failed, and I was for ſome weeks completely qualified for Bedlam. My friends, for I had ſtill ſome in the country, did all they could to pacify me; they told me things were not ſo bad as I imagined; that I was ſtill a young man, and flattering my perſon, ſaid I might marry a woman of fortune, and reſtore every thing; that I was not the only one who had ſuffered by this unexpected failure; and that ſome, who had laboured all their lives for a competence, had been as great ſufferers as myſelf.

Though there is a ſpecies of cruelty in receiving any ſolace from the ſimilar afflictions of our fellow-creatures, ſuch is the frailty of human nature, that in proportion as we find we are not the moſt unhappy of our ſpecies, we become, in ſome degree, reconciled to the greateſt calamities of life.

By degrees I ſurmounted the grief and chagrin occaſioned by this loſs; but in proportion as the arguments of my friends prevailed, their reaſoning hurt my vanity, and I fancied they took a pride in conſoling one, who had been once ſo much ſuperior, but now inferior in fortune. I therefore reſolved to repair again to the capital, riſque my all, and not return till I had repaired my fortune.

I had

I had not been many days in London before a ſpecious advertiſement appeared in one of the public papers, intimating, "that a lady who had connections of a very advantageous nature, would, for the ſum of two hundred pounds, introduce a ſingle gentleman to an unmarried lady of great fortune." The hint given me by my friends occurred to me upon this occaſion, and I had a ſpeedy interview with the advertiſer.

She was a middle-aged woman, very decent in appearance, with a ſoft engaging manner of ſpeaking. She informed me of the ſuppoſed party, but acquainted me, that the ſum ſpecified in the advertiſement muſt previouſly be depoſited in a friend's hands. To this I readily conſented, as the houſe in which ſhe reſided, the ſervants who attended her, and the elegance of her own perſon, all united to remove every poſſible ſuſpicion. A day was accordingly appointed for the interview with the lady of fortune. I was punctual to the hour, after having undergone the moſt advantageous operation of hair-dreſſing, and put on an expenſive, and, as I imagined, well-fancied ſuit of cloaths for the occaſion.

I ordered my chair to Hanover-ſtreet, the ſpot of rendezvous, when to my utmoſt aſtoniſhment the houſe was ſhut up. I enquired in the neighbourhood, and found the lady of the houſe (which was already furniſhed) had decamped the day before, without any one knowing whither ſhe was gone; and I never could obtain any tidings of her, or my two hundred pounds.

It were almoſt needleſs to obſerve, that this laſt ſtroke upon my ſmall capital had greatly reduced me, or that I had created ſome debts, or was peſtered with ſome impatient creditors. Among the foremoſt of theſe was my taylor, to whom I had indiſcreetly given a hint of my expected marriage; and he finding it not likely to take place, thought it prudent to ſecure my perſon.

Being

Being conducted to a lock-up-houſe, with too much propriety ſtiled a ſpunging-houſe, the worthy landlord claimed an acquaintaince with me, ſaying, "he had known my father; and that if he had been ſenſible before it was ſo late (it now being towards the evening) that I was his gueſt, he would have bailed me —adding, that it was a pity one of my family and fortune ſhould be confined for ſo trifling a ſum." I found by the latter part of his harrangue, that he was ignorant of the preſent ſtate of my finances, and did not think it prudent at preſent, to undeceive him. "He hoped, however, I ſhould paſs my time agreeably, as he had ſome gentlemen, very jolly fellows, in the ſame ſituation, who would be glad of my company." Had his recommendation not been ſo great, I ſhould have accepted of his invitation under ſuch circumſtances; and, in leſs than an hour, three well-powdered, laced beaux, made their appearance.

The circumſtance of their dreſs a little ſurpriſed me; but being unacquainted with the cuſtoms of the place, it made no deep impreſſion on me at that time. Burnt Champaign, Claret and Burgundy, were the only wines we drank. Lanſquenet was then propoſed, and agreed to by every one but myſelf, as ignorant of the game. They, however, ſoon gave me a leſſon; and being on the one hand, ſomewhat elevated with wine, and deſperate in my circumſtances, I concluded it a favourable opportunity of making one puſh more at fortune's favours. I was, moreover, excited to play by the ſight of a large quantity of gold, and a number of bank-notes. For once I loſt ſight of the ſtricteſt rule of probity, and judged my playing, without any ſuch ſum, as an adventageous venture for part of it. I, however, acquainted them with my being deſtitute of caſh; to which they all readily replied, it was of no conſequence, my word was ſufficient.

In

In fine, before two hours had elapſed, I had loſt a hundred; when they pretended being ſleepy, and retired to reſt. My hoſt then entered, and, after giving me a friendly admonition againſt playing ſo deep for the future, ſaid, if I had occaſion for a hundred, he would let me have it upon my bond, and would bail my debt himſelf the next day.

There was no alternative in ſuch a ſituation, and I gave him a bond for the whole.

Upon my gaining my liberty, I found all three of my aſſociates at the Union coffee-houſe, in an adjacent room, quarrelling about the diviſion of my property.

Hearing the gentlemen who had done me the honour of giving me a leſſon at lanſquenet, diſputing about the diſpoſal of what they had gained from me, I waited in the coffee-room till they came out; when taking one of them aſide, I ſaid, "I was glad to find he had ſo ſpeedily regained his liberty; but that I hoped he and his two friends, who had borrowed a ſmall ſum of me at cards, would judge it the moſt judicious ſtep they could take to refund it, as they had ſo much difficulty in dividing it." He pretended not to underſtand me; but having explained myſelf, he called his aſſociates aſide, when a cabinet council of gamblers was held; and after their being ſome time in a private room, I was ſent for in, and addreſſed in the following words, by the perſon to whom I had made application: "Sir, we underſtand you have been very unlucky, and met with ſeveral diſappointments, which we did not know at the time we won your money, as you were repreſented to us as a man of eaſy fortune, though in that temporary diſtreſs. We are, ſir, an united body of people; there are not leſs than thirty of us; we are called the Family, and if you chuſe to be admitted a member, we will give you all poſſible recommendation, and doubt not you will

will be approved of, as you have ſeveral good connections, we hear, in the country; and you ſhall have a juſt dividend of all you procure to the ſociety. As to monies loſt, it is againſt our poſitive law ever to return any, unleſs legally compelled; and therefore I would have you lay aſide all thoughts of what you have loſt: but we will make it up to you another way."

So uncommon and unexpected a ſpeech greatly ſtaggered me---I knew not what to reply---my affairs were deſperate---my bond would be ſoon due to —— the officer, and I did not know of any poſſible means to raiſe ten pounds: in ſuch a dilemma, I replied I would conſider of the propoſal. The elegant appearance of every member of the Family, their gay and expenſive manner of living, the eaſe with which they got their money, all tended to ſeduce me, and I concluded with the French poet,

L'on commence par etre dupe, & l'on fini par etre fripon.

I was that very night initiated into the ſociety, and the caſhier advanced me fifty guineas upon my note, payable only on the firſt good run. I was then informed, that every member had a peculiar apartment: ſome were great and expert players at different games, according to the faireſt rules; others were leger-demain operators, who could make the cards and dice do anything but ſpeak; others were bye-ſtanders in public, to determine in caſes of a diſpute in favour of the Family; others were decoy-ducks to entice novices into private play; others were hard drinkers, eight bottle men, who drank the pigeons drunk at proper times; others were money-lenders to men of fortune who were out of caſh, by which means all the ſeverities of the law were evaded, as theſe loans

were

were made according to the ſtricteſt rules; others were note-diſcounters; and others the bullies and fighting men upon all occaſions. A few of theſe real characters will, perhaps, not be diſagreeable to your readers.

Tom Eaſy was the ſon of a gentleman of ſmall fortune in Ireland, who dying when he was young, the diſſipation of that gay nation ſoon hurried him into ſuch extravagancies, that when he came of age, he found his debts, and the incumbrances upon his eſtate, more than ballanced the neat value of it. Tom endeavoured to get into the army, but his religion (being a Papiſt) and connections were obſtacles that his ſmall intereſt could not ſurmount. Having a near relation an officer of rank in the Auſtrian ſervice, by his interceſſion and recommendation, Tom obtained a pair of colours in the imperial army, and ſignalized himſelf upon ſeveral occaſions in Flanders in the war before laſt. He gained ſome preferment, and was a brevet captain when the peace of Aix-la Chapelle was concluded. Eaſy had that peculiar kind of conduct which moſt univerſally pleaſes, and is chiefly deſtructive to the perſon only who purſues it: he would drink and game with any man; he was perfectly genteel and polite in his behaviour, and was generally eſteemed as a very hearty fellow by every officer in his corps. At the termination of the war he received a ſmall reſidue of pay that was due to him, and repairing to Spa, he was lucky enough to win at pharoah about five hundred pounds. With this he came over to England, and was not without ſome hopes of making his fortune by marriage, as his perſon, though not handſome, was agreeable, and his addreſs particularly engaging; add to this, that being naturally generous, he ſpared no expence to pleaſe the ladies, and moreover his dreſs and appearance were always magnificent. But before he had framed any connections with the fair-ſex, he fell into the

clutches

clutches of the Family, who fleeced him of every ſhilling. Tom was a ſoldier of fortune, and finding his ſituation deſperate, he eaſily ſurmounted ſome ſcruples of conſcience, and was incorporated into the ſociety. Tom Eaſy, though he lived by play, was ignorant of almoſt every game, except that of chance; and therefore never touched a card, or ſcarce ever played for a ſhilling. His part lay in drinking. When Tom had drank a good pigeon into a right mood, he left him to the reſt of the Family for plucking.

Jack Mountain was a native of the ſame kingdom, but every feature of his character was different from Eaſy's. He was bred a clergyman, having received a claſſical education, and had a taſte for literature and polite reading. Upon his arrival in England, he obtained a chaplainſhip in a regiment which ſerved in Germany the laſt war, and was preſent at the glorious battle of Minden.

Mountain had a natural itch for play, and would often game when he muſt be convinced he had little or no chance to win. He had, however, ſome knowledge of moſt games, and his vanity, which was not a ſmall ingredient in his compoſition, prompted him to think his judgment very deep. He has been known to play with a life-guardſman, and loſe a hundred pounds ready money to him; when his antagoniſt, had he been the ſufferer, could not have raiſed as many ſhillings to have kept himſelf from Newgate. In this manner he fell a ſacrifice to the Family; but as he had qualities that might be very beneficial to them, they ſupplied his wants, which were not ſmall, and pointed out his department. Jack Mountain was the beſt calculated for a decoy-duck of any one that was ever initiated into the Family. He had a melodious voice, was happy in his choice of words, ſoft and perſuaſive in his manner, a complete maſter of that kind of rhetoric which influences the paſſions, by allowing

them

them the moſt ample gratifications: add to this his knowledge of books and men, united to a comley figure, had no ſmall effect upon thoſe he laid wait for. Jack's oily tongue may be ſaid to have greaſed the wheels of the equipages of the whole family for more than two years; for though, like Count Baſſet, they rolled upon the four aces, they were apt to be clogg'd without ſuch a ſkilful driver as Jack Mountain.

The ſame addreſs and logic that prevailed with the men, could not fail performing execution when pointed at the vanity of the frail ſex. Jack, though, clerical, had more intrigues and miſtreſſes than any other member of the ſociety; and though he was ſucceſsful in his amours, being naturally of a generous, expenſive diſpoſition, his engagements of this kind brought many heavy drafts upon the treaſury of the Family; which were, however, always honoured, as he was ſo uſeful and beneficial a member to the ſociety.

Jack Mountain entertained very high notions of honour, and did not think his cloth a ſufficient apology for putting up with an affront when pointed at him. He had fought ſeveral duels; and been ſhot through the coat and the hat, but he never yet had been wounded. A diſpute he had with a gentleman at play, produced a challenge, when Jack was wounded with a piſtol-ball in the groin, of which he died. Alas! poor Jack Mountain! thy loſs will long be deplored by all the Family.

Pompey is a character of a diſtinct claſs to either of the former. No one underſtands figures better than Pompey; he was bred to trade, but finding a convenient loop-hole to ſlip into a bankruptcy, and perceiving he ſhould gain more by that one ſtroke than purſuing trade for fourteen years, he ſhut up his ſhop and his books, and judiciouſly commenced gentleman. Being poſſeſſed of a conſiderable ſum in ready money,

and

and well acquainted with the viciſſitudes, not ſo ſay chicaneries of commerce, he reſolved to have nothing more to do with fair dealing; but having a natural itch for money-getting, and being unwilling to let his caſh lie idle, he commenced what is called a money-taker at ———'s gaming-table, in ——— ſtreet. A money-taker was a perſon who conſtantly attended, and was obliged to accept of all betts offered, upon having one hole, which was called the bar-hole, at roulette, or E. O. in his favour. This was ſo conſiderable an advantage, that in the long run it was ſure to entitle them to the juſt appellation of money-takers. Whilſt this table continued, Pompey was a very great gainer, not getting, upon a moderate computation, leſs than fifty pounds a week. When this gaming-houſe was ſuppreſſed, Pompey had a new vocation to purſue; for as he had yet done every thing by calculation, where that had no influence, his genius was at a ſtand. He, however, ſoon found opportunities of making acquaintance with the ſkilful at games of addreſs, and by lending money to the needy, but expert, and hedging off his betts by emiſſaries on the other player, he found his account in this kind of commerce. He had at one time all the tennis and billiard-makers in conſtant pay; and being by this time perfectly acquainted with the theory of theſe games, he knew how to make a match for his deputies to the beſt advantage.

An opportunity ſoon offered for his being admitted of the Family: it had been a very ſcarce ſeaſon for pigeons, and their expences at the different watering places and horſe-races, had been very great; which, added to ſome unexpected drafts, obliged them to have recourſe to a good man, for a ſupply of caſh. Pompey was known to be rich, and though a novice in their myſteries, to have amaſſed, in a few months, by dint of judgment and addreſs, a very conſiderable

ſum. He liſtened to the propoſal, and aſſiſted them with the money required. His labours were now at an end: he was only a bye-ſtander, a hedger, or the perſon that was to give the balance of weight of metal, which is always ſure to prevail.

Pompey, grown grey in knavery and chicane, boaſts of his families, and aſcribes that to genius, which was partly the effects of artifice and chance. His eſcaping the halter he conſiders as a maſter-piece of policy---- but let him remember Charters's end, and tremble--- A man may have a very good chance of being hang'd at eighty.

Having diſpatched Tom Eaſy, Jack Mountain and Pompey, I ſhall now introduce the reader into ſome company, that will, probably, be more agreeable---- theſe are the ladies.

Lady Dorothy L———— is a woman of ſome faſhion, but no fortune: a faux pas that ſhe made in the early part of her life, eſtranged her from her family; and finding her character in a doubtful ſtate, ſhe was reſolved to eſtabliſh it, and throw off all reſerve. Her beauty procured her many admirers; bnt too laviſh a gratification of her inamoratos, with the irregularities of demirepiſm, demoliſhed her charms before that time of life at which ſhe might probably have been ſtill a toaſt, with more care for her conſtitution, and attention to regularity. As her lovers diminiſhed ſhe began to find they did not keep pace with her beauty, and ſhe reſolved upon that tranſition which is ſo eaſily made by ladies of her claſs; ſhe tranſmuted from the miſtreſs to the matron; from the woman of pleaſure to the procureſs.

Lady Dorothy keeps one of the genteeleſt houſes of polite intrigue in London; and ſhe has the vanity to boaſt, that ſhe has been the ruin of more beauties than all the officers in the ſervice. But let it not be imagined, that her ladyſhip's deſigns were confined

ſolely

ſolely to her own ſex; ſhe was a woman of univerſal genius, and had been for ſome time a ſiſter of the Family. Some very conſiderable fortunes have been transferred at her houſe, without the aſſiſtance of a conveyancer, or any other witneſſes than the four knaves.

Fanny G——— is a very pretty woman: ſhe has the fineſt teeth, and the beſt turned arms, perhaps, in England. She has read all the polite novels, has a ſmattering of ſomething between wit and humour, and is very lucky at a double entendre. Fanny lays no particular claim to chaſtity; yet ſhe is ſo finiſhed a coquette that ſhe always ſlips through the men's fingers, when they think they are ſure of her. She has no paſſions but vanity and lucre.

Theſe outlines of her character muſt clearly point out that few women are better qualified to be one of the Family than Fanny.

She was introduced to Sir Thomas F——— by K——— as his ſiſter. The baronet was enamoured with her. He offered her an equipage, a country houſe, a ſettlement; Fanny did not abſolutely reject his propoſals; ſhe gave him hopes that have not been accompliſhed to this day: but ſhe was paſſionately fond of all-fours, and her ſwain readily gratified her. The party continued ſix weeks, in which time he had ſix kiſſes of her hand, and loſt ſix thouſand pounds. The baronet is ſtill in love, and would renew the party to-morrow upon the ſame terms.

Mrs. H——— is a woman of a very different turn. No one underſtands the punctilio and etiquette of card-tables better than this lady. She is a complete miſtreſs of her buſineſs, which, however, is carried on but in a ſmall way, and is but a prelude to the great ſtrokes of negociation. Mrs. H——— ſtands upon her reputation: nothing ungenteel is practiſed at her houſe, and ſhe would ſcorn to wink at a ſlip,

or the long-ſhuffle. Her houſe is literally a polite gaming-houſe, frequented by men of the firſt faſhion, and ſhe requires nothing but the legal emoluments of the candleſtick: yet the Family find acceſs here; and, by means of theſe prefatory parties, have in the end reaped great emoluments.

By this time the reader has, doubtleſs, ſome inſight into the characters, diſpoſitions, and connections of the Family. I have already obſerved, that every perſon belonging to this ſociety has each his particular department; and I was admitted a member, on account of my country acquaintance. Nevertheleſs, I had as yet been of no kind of ſervice to them, except the introduction of ſome temp rary friends picked up about York, who turned out rather too knowing; however, they dropt a few hundreds, which gave a very timely relief to the bank.

Some time after, I met with my old friend and ſchool-fellow Sir James L———. Pompey congratulated me upon my acquaintance, and ran immediately to communicate the joyful tidings to our treaſurer, and to two others of the fraternity, who were then in the rooms. Sir James very politely invited me to dine with him that very day; and the Family were ſo elated with the proſpect, that there was not a ſingle member in town, but ordered a new ſuit of cloaths upon the ſtrength of Sir James's credit.

They were waiting for me, with eager curioſity, to know what I had done with the baronet; when we entered together to take a ſingle bottle. Pompey called me out, and told me this was the time, and deſired me to introduce him. "The time for what?" I aſk—"Introduce you to who?" He ſtared, and with much ſeeming aſtoniſhment, enquired, "If I were out of my ſenſes?" I told him I did not underſtand him, and begged him to explain himſelf. "Why, ſir," ſaid he, "the baronet—is he not one

of

of the richeſt men in England?---who can ſuit your purpoſe ſo well?" What to fleece him! "Yes, certainly." "Why, ſir, he is my particular friend." "So much the better, you have then the greater aſcendancy over him." "But, ſir, I have many obligations to him, and can you think me ſuch a ſcoundrel, ſuch a villain, as to cheat and rob a man, who has befriended me on every occaſion, and aſſiſted me, generouſly aſſiſted me, in the moſt critical diſtreſs." "Good heaven, how the man raves! what is all that to us?---Why, ſir, if you talk of conſcience, honour, and friendſhip, it is all over with you: theſe are very fine ſounding words; but they have no ſort of ſignification in our dictionary. In a word, ſir, a man that would not ſacrifice his deareſt friend, nay, his brother or his father, is not fit to be one of the Family." "If that is the caſe, ſir, I am very ſorry I ever belonged to ſo infamous a fraternity, and from this moment, I declare myſelf unconnected with you and your proceedings."

To be ingenuous, I believe this declaration was rather a work of ſupererogation; and that the report of my having ſome ſeelings of humanity, which had reached the ſociety, were ſufficient to eraſe my name from the honourable, worthy liſt. I was from this moment conſidered as a traitor to the cauſe; and I from this moment reſolved to lay open their villainous ſchemes, and, if poſſible, prevent the deſtruction of the credulous, ignorant, and unwary, who are apt to be impoſed upon by appearances; and who have often more faith in a laced coat and a ſword, than they have in plain, downright honeſty, and an humble garb.

It appeared, according to the treaſurer's accompts, when I was laſt admitted to inſpect them, that in the courſe of two years they had robbed and plundered young heirs, middle-aged dupes, and old fools of ſix-

ty, of nine thouſand four hundred pounds, and as a proof of their generoſity, a young gentleman who had loſt his all among them, and was ſtarving, was refuſed, upon application to Pompey, the alms of a ſhilling. "I ſhould have enough to do," ſaid he, "if I were to ſupport all the ſpendthrifts, who pretend they have been ruined in my company. If you loſt your money, you have gained experience.---You are a young man, and may make your way in the world yet; but I never encourage idleneſs and beggary.

As I ſhould expect juſt ſuch a reception upon a ſimilar occaſion, I have never applied, in my diſtreſs, to any one of the fraternity; but remain

A BROKEN GAMESTER.

The FOX *and the* PHEASANT: *a Fable.*

THE Fox one ev'ning took his way,
Thro' the ſtill wood in ſearch of prey,
And there by chance he caſt his eye,
Upon a Pheaſant perch'd on high:
The luſcious morſel made him lick
His lips, his appetite grew quick;
And various ſubtle ways he tries
To ſeize upon the wiſh'd-for prize.
The tim'rous Pheaſant kept his ſtand,
Spying a Fox ſo near at hand.
At length ſly Reynard ſilence broke,
And with much ſeeming kindneſs ſpoke:
" Dear friend, I'm griev'd at heart to find,
" You're thus to ſolitude inclin'd;
" If you'll deſcend and take a walk,
" I will divert you with my talk;
" Your diſmal thoughts I'll drive away,
" And make you blithe and briſk as May:
" Did you but know what dangers nigh,
" You would not chuſe a place ſo high,

" The

" The falc'ner is not far behind,
" You know his ill-deſigning mind."
" A friend!" ſtrait the bird alarm'd reply'd,
" We ne'er in friendſhip were ally'd;
" If I can ween aright you're he,
" To whom I owe my miſery:
" My ſire, by ſome falſe friend like you,
" Truſting too much to outward ſhew,
" Was cruelly betrap'd of late,
" A victim to untimely fate:
" Your colour, ſhape, and ſize, declare,
" Of you my dam bid me beware."
" Your ſire and I were hand and glove;
" And ſo well known our mutual love,
" That ev'ry day we ſent a greeting,
" If bus'neſs hinder'd us from meeting;
" Your filial grief I cannot blame,
" A parent's loſs no leſs can claim,
" I heartily with you ſympathize,
" And can't from tears refrain my eyes;
" For I was witneſs to his fate,
" It chanc'd as we a ſunning ſat,
" And ſweetly paſs'd our time in chat;
" When lo! a Fox, of griſly make,
" Came ruſhing out of yonder brake,
" At unawares your ſire he caught,
" And fled away as quick as thought;
" My faculties with fear ſubdu'd,
" The cruel raviſher I view'd,
" Nor cou'd dry-ey'd behold a fight,
" So full of horror and affright:
" He now was got to ſuch a diſtance,
" I could, alas! lend no aſſiſtance.
" Howe'er, I ſet upon his back,
" To be reveng'd, a neigh'bring pack.
" I own your duty bids obey,
" And mind whate'er your dam does ſay:

" But I'm a Fox of gentle kind,
" That ne'er to bloodſhed was inclin'd:
" She caution'd well, but meant not me,
" Who with your ſire did ſo agree.
" Your ſire!- whoſe lineaments I trace,
" In ev'ry feature of your face;
" I'm raviſh'd with th' enchanting ſight,
" And can't expreſs my great delight.
" What pow'r could form ſo rare a creature?
" How beauteous is each grace and feature?
" That bill ſo black, the blackeſt jett
" That e'er was ſeen, can't vie with it:
" Fuſtina's notes are little worth,
" Compar'd with thoſe you warble forth.
" The ſcarlet that ſurrounds your eyes
" The fam'd Venetian hue outvies:
" Might I but ſtroke that golden breaſt,
" Not all the gods were half ſo bleſt:
" The feathers that your tail adorn
" Might by an Indian king be worn."
The ſimple bird, well pleas'd to hear
What e'en the wiſeſt can't forbear,
To his own praiſes lent an ear.
" This can't (concludes he) be a foe,
" From which ſuch charming accents flow."
Caution and fear now laid aſide,
Thinking no evil could betide,
He boldly ventur'd on the ground,
And there too late his error found.
When you read this, moſt virtuous beauteous maid,
Conſider how the Pheaſant was betray'd.

An unaccountable Transformation of a CHESHIRE CHEESE.

AN elderly gentleman, now reſiding in London, going to the Eaſt-Indies, ſome years ſince, bought

bought a quantity of Cheſhire cheeſe, and among them a very fine one, on the cheeſe-monger's word, for a treat among his friends, when he came to the end of his voyage.

On the arrival of the ſhip at Bengall, he invited all his acquaintance to ſupper with him, and on opening the leaden cheeſe, in which it had been ſoldered up to preſerve it, found it turned entirely into maggots, which greatly diſappointed both himſelf and company.

After a little thought, he incloſed it, and had it ſoldered up again, as before; and on the return of the ſhip to England, carried it to the cheeſe-monger he had bought it of, and told him how he had diſappointed him; and in order to prove the veracity of his aſſertion, uncaſed the cheeſe again; when, to his great ſurpriſe, he found that the maggots were transformed into as ſound and fair a cheeſe as ever was ſeen or taſted.

Anecdote of the late Dr. Flamstead.

HE was many years aſtronomer-royal at Greenwich obſervatory; a humouriſt, and of warm paſſions. Perſons of his profeſſion are often ſuppoſed, by the common people, to be capable of foretelling events. In this perſuaſion a poor waſher-woman at Greenwich, who had been robbed at night of a large parcel of linen, to her almoſt ruin, if forced to pay for it, came to him, and with great anxiety earneſtly requeſted him to uſe his art, to let her know where her things were, and who robbed her. The Doctor happened to be in the humour to joke; he bid her ſtay, he would ſee what he could do; perhaps he might let her know where to find them, but who the perſons were he would not undertake, as he could have no poſitive proof to convict them it would be uſeleſs.

He

He then ſet about drawing circles, ſquares, &c. to amuſe her; and, after ſome time, told her, if ſhe would go into a particular field, that in ſuch a part of it, in a ditch, ſhe would find them bundled up in a ſheet. The woman went, and found them, came with great haſte and joy to thank the Doctor, and offered him half a crown as a token of gratitude, being as much as ſhe could afford. The Doctor, ſurpriſed himſelf, told her, "Good woman, I am heartily glad you have found your linen, but I aſſure you I knew nothing of it, and intended only to joke with you, and then to have read you a lecture on the folly of applying to any perſon to know events not in the human power to tell; but I ſee the devil has a mind I ſhould deal with him; I am determined I ſhall not; ſo never come, or ſend any one, to me more, on ſuch occaſions, for I never will attempt ſuch an affair again whilſt I live." This ſtory Doctor Flamſtead told the late rev. and learned Mr. Whiſton, his intimate friend, from whom I have more than once heard it.

Falſe Pride; or the Hiſtory of HARRIOT WHITTON.

MRS. Whitton having been accuſtomed to live in a genteel ſtyle during her huſband's life, who had a good place under the government, but who was of too extravagant a turn to lay up any thing for his family out of the emoluments ariſing from it, found herſelf in very ſtrait circumſtances at his death, having only the intereſt of a few thouſands in the funds for her own and her daughter's ſubſiſtence. Being too proud, however, to leſſen her appearance in the world, ſhe made numberleſs contemptible ſhifts at home in order to keep her conſequence abroad; and was even ridiculous enough to throw out pretty ſtrong hints that ſhe could live in a very different manner, if

ſhe

ſhe did not think it more prudent to increaſe her daughter's fortune.

Harriot Whitton was extremely agreeable in her perſon, without being a complete beauty, or having any thing remarkable enough in that perſon to make a minute deſcription of it neceſſary; and as ſhe was a ſenſible girl, had been genteely educated, and had mixed a good deal in the polite world, her manners were ſufficiently elegant for the firſt circle in the kingdom. Harriot, however, having been early taught by her mother to have a high opinion of herſelf, and to make the advantages which ſhe had received from nature and from art, liſtened but too attentively, and adhered but too cloſely to the inſtructions almoſt daily repeated to her; for ſhe grew up ſo proud and ſo conceited, that her behaviour generally repelled thoſe whom her pleaſing exterior attracted.——If proud people would conſider a little how very deſpicable they make themſelves, as well as diſagreeable, by the haughtineſs of their behaviour, they would, I am willing to believe, take pains to acquire an affable carriage, which is ſo univerſally bewitching: to the fair-ſex in particular, who fall under this cenſure, I would earneſtly recommend the carriage of the higheſt lady in the nation, who is by all allowed to be as much diſtinguiſhed for her affability as for her rank.

It is no eaſy matter to ſay whether the mother or the daughter had the greateſt ſhare of pride; but of the two, the former made herſelf a more ridiculous character by the airs of importance which ſhe aſſumed; becauſe though ſhe was the widow of a gentleman by birth as well as by his employment, ſhe was the daughter of a ſhop-keeper not far from the Royal Exchange, and diſcovered on almoſt every occaſion the vulgariſms which ſhe had contracted at a cheap and plebeian boarding-ſchool: vulgariſms by which ſhe never would have recommended herſelf to Mr. Whitton;

Whitton; but the truth is, he was very young when he made his addreſſes to her, having fallen in love with her at a Lord Mayor's ball. He had only a ſmall place in the office in which he afterwards roſe, by ſeniority, to a lucrative poſt, when he aſked her father's conſent to marry her; but as Mr. Minniken had vanity enough to be flattered with the addreſſes of a gentleman to his Kitty, he gave his conſent very readily, and with it a pretty fortune.——Mrs. Whitton, when ſhe was removed from Cornhill to Whitehall, ſoon became a different creature, ſhook off all her city acquaintance, and could hardly bring herſelf to viſit even her father while he lived. Such a ſort of woman was Mrs. Whitton; and Harriot, though in a more elegant ſtyle, was not leſs deſerving of the laughter and the ſcorn which her behaviour excited.

Mrs. Whitton and Harriot being one night in the front boxes (they would not have appeared either in the pit or the gallery upon any account) an agreeable young gentleman, but in a plain dreſs, took his ſeat behind them.

Harriot, though ſhe thought him a pleaſing figure, and genteel in his carriage, was not ſtruck at the ſight of him, becauſe his companion, by the richneſs of his cloaths, out-ſhone him. However, as the plain dreſſed gentleman ſeemed extremely attentive to her, and the other quite otherwiſe, ſhe was naturally induced to direct her eyes to him, whenever ſhe turned about; and ſhe contrived frequently to throw them upon a level with his.

When the play was over, Mrs. Whitton ſat till few people remained in the houſe, and nobody in the box ſhe was in but her daughter and the gentleman who had been ſo much ſtruck with her.——After having looked frequently towards the door, as if ſhe waited for her ſervant, but really from being aſhamed to leave her ſeat without the appearance of an attendant, the

gentleman

gentleman very politely aſked her if ſhe would permit him to wait on her to her carriage.——The queſtion embarraſſed her a little; however, ſhe ſoon recovered herſelf, and told him that ſhe and her daughter came in chairs.

"I will, then, madam, if you pleaſe, as your ſervant has diſappointed you, ſupply his place."

Mrs. Whitton was too proud to undeceive him about the ſervant; but however, he inſiſted on walking home with them, to their great mortification, as their lodgings were rather ſhabby.---When they were ſet down, he was in hopes of introducing himſelf into the houſe; but as Mrs. Whitton only wiſhed him a good night with a ceremonious civility, he had nothing to do but to take his leave, which he did in the politeſt manner.

When Mrs. Whitton and Harriot were by themſelves, they naturally talked of the behaviour of the gentleman who had accompanied their chairs.---"If he is really as much ſtruck with you, Harriot," ſaid Mrs. Whitton, "as I think he is, he will certainly contrive to make us a viſit ſoon; and if he ſhould prove to be a man of character and fortune, for notwithſtanding the plainneſs of his dreſs, he has very much the air of a man of faſhion, he will be worthy of your attention."

"If he is a man of fortune, madam," replied Harriot, "he certainly will merit my attention, for I am quite ſick of living in this piddling way: one may be as well out of the world as to make no figure in it."

The ſentiments of half the fair ſex are, perhaps, contained in that ſpeech.

"Well, my dear——I wiſh you ſucceſs, and ſhall be very glad to live in another ſtyle myſelf."

In ſuch kind of chat they paſſed the time till they retireſt to reſt.

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The gentleman who was ſo charmed with Miſs Whitton was Mr. Bromley, the ſon of an eminent grocer in the Borough, and in partnerſhip with his father. As he was walking home he felt ſomebody clap him on the ſhoulder, and turning round, ſaw an intimate acquaintance of his who had been at the play, and at the ſame houſe.

"So, Bromley," ſaid he, "you are thinking of Harriot Whitton, I ſuppoſe."

"Who is ſhe?" replied Bromley."

"The girl who attracted your attention ſo much this evening in one of the front-boxes in Covent-Garden. She is a fine creature, faith, and if you are diſpoſed to marry without ſtanding upon a fortune, for I know you are too ſober a fellow to keep a girl, you may have a charming companion, morning, noon and night, whenever you pleaſe; for Harriot ſeems to be as much taken with you as you are with her; and will be very ready to make rather more flaſh than ſhe can, at preſent afford to do."

Bromley, after having received ſome farther information concerning Mrs. Whitton and her daughter, determined to wait on them the next day.——He did ſo, and was immediately admitted.

After he had paid a few viſits, having no reaſon to expect a refuſal from the young lady, or to meet with the diſapprobation of the old one, he made his propoſals, which were accepted. He then left them, in order to give his inſtructions to his lawyer.

Soon after his departure a very high-bred girl, with whom Harriot was intimately acquainted, one of her dear friends, but who had as ſmall pretenſions to high airs as herſelf, called upon her, and with a malicious ſatisfaction, wiſhed her joy on having made ſo capital a conqueſt.

Harriot's eyes gliſtened with pleaſure; but ſhe choſe affectedly to conceal her joy, by ſaying, "Shu my dear!"

"Nay, my dear," added her friend, "Mr. Bromley is actually reckoned the prettieſt fellow in the Borough."

"In the Borough!" ſaid Harriot, ſtaring, full of aſtoniſhment.

"Ay, child; and when his father dies, he will perhaps, be the richeſt grocer in London.—But I can't ſtay any longer now—I have fifty places to call at—and ſo bon jour."

Mrs. Whitton and Harriot ſat for ſome moments after Miſs Fletcher had quitted the room, looking at each other without ſpeaking a word.—At laſt the former exclaimed, "A grocer!" with a contemptuous tone, to which the latter echoed, "A grocer!" with a voice equally expreſſive of the haughtineſs of her heart.——However, madam," ſaid Hariot, "diſappointed as I am by this intelligence, it gives me at the ſame time no ſmall ſatisfaction, for I would rather die than be the wife of a tradeſman."

"I commend you, child," ſaid Mrs. Whitton; "I ſhould be extremely ſorry to ſee you in ſo vulgar a light."——Never were two people more ſurpriſed; for they had concluded from his generous behaviour that he was a gentleman of fortune, and did not care to affront him by a cloſe enquiry into his ſituation in life.

When Mr. Bromley came the next day, he was admitted, indeed; but the reception he met with was very unexpected.

Mrs. Whitton, only, made her appearance. Harriot was ſo much mortified at her diſappointment that ſhe would not come down to him. "Well, madam," ſaid Bromley, with accents, "I have put things in a train, and I hope Miſs Whitton will hurry on matters on her ſide, as I ſhall on mine."

"She is in no hurry, ſir, to be the wife of a tradeſman," anſwered ſhe, ſwelling with falſe pride; "I

muſt,

muſt, therefore, deſire you not to give yourſelf the trouble of coming here again."

With theſe words ſhe flounced out of the room with an inflamed countenance, leaving Mr. Bromley to find his way out of the houſe by himſelf: and he quitted it full of indignation at the treatment which he had received; but long before he reached the Borough, he conſidered his diſmiſſion as an event rather to be remembered with pleaſure than with pain.

Willing, however, after having calmly teflected upon his diſmiſſion, to know whether Harriot was really ſo ridiculouſly proud as to reject him merely on account of his being concerned in trade, or whether Mrs. Whitton had not anſwered too precipitately for her daughter, becauſe ſhe was herſelf, offended, he diſpatched his ſervant with a note to Miſs Whitton, in order to have the unexpected procedure of the foregoing day thoroughly cleared up.

The anſwer to his note was ſhort and deciſive:

Sir, my mother told you the truth when ſhe ſaid, I was in no hurry to be married to a tradeſman.

HARRIOT WHITTON.

The conſequence was, they pined away a wretched life, and at length died the death of miſery.

The Happineſs of Life regulated by the Precepts of Virtue: or, the Hiſtory of BARCAS; *an Oriental Tale.*

IN a lovely valley between the chalky cliffs of Chaldee, watered by a perennial ſtream from the antient Euphrates, Barcas, deſcended from the patriarchs of old, had pitched his tents. A towering oak, venerable with age, the ſhadow of whoſe ſpreading branches offered a cooling retreat from the noon-tide rays, ſtood before them; and a lofty grove of citrons and pomegranates, delighted the eye of the traveller, and

gave

gave its ſpicey odours to the fluttering breeze. His doors were always open to the ſtranger and the fatherleſs; the indigent found in him a generous benefactor. He delighted to remove the chilling hand of poverty from the unfortunate, and to pour the balm of comfort into the breaſt of the friendleſs. Filled with the generous principles of virtue and beneficence, he was not contented with enjoying happineſs himſelf, but deſirous of extending it to all the human race.

He always pitched his tents within the ſight of ſome principal road, that the weary traveller might find refreſhment, and reſt ſecurely after the toils of the day.

Among the reſt that viſited the hoſpitable tents of Barcas, was Selim, Prince of Aden, who had been driven from his country by the Sophi of Perſia. His countenance was clouded with cares and diſappointments, and his attention wholly employed in meditating on his misfortunes.

Barcas received the unfortunate ſtranger with that cordial affection, which had endeared him to all the inhabitants of the neighbouring countries. He treated him in the moſt hoſpitable manner, and endeavoured, by a chearful and engaging converſation, to baniſh that melancholy which preyed upon his mind; but finding all his endeavours fruitleſs, he thus addreſſed the Prince of Aden.

" Some misfortune, heavier than thoſe common to the ſons of men, has doubtleſs fallen upon thee, and thy ſpirits are unable to ſupport the ponderous weight. But tell me, thou that haſt drank deep of the cup of affliction, is it impoſſible to remove the cauſe of thy grief, or to mitigate thy ſorrow? Is the dart of affliction pierced ſo far into thy breaſt, that it cannot be drawn, and is the wound too deep to admit of a cure? Remember that the path of life lies along the margin of the river of adverſity, and every human being is obliged to drink often of its bitter ſtream. But let

not the misfortunes common to all the children of men discourage us, nor deprive us of those innocent pleasures which the bountiful Father of the universe hath scattered around us, with a liberal hand."

"Thy reasonings, Barcas," replied the stranger, "are doubtless just; but misfortunes like mine are too many to be removed, and too heavy to be supported. Thou canst not be a stranger to the melancholy fate of Selim Prince of Aden. He lately flourished like a tall cedar on the mountains, and was eminently distinguished among the Princes of the earth. The oppressed of different nations implored his protection, and at his command the proud tyrants of the neighbouring countries laid the rod of oppression aside. But the haughty Persian prevailed against him, and laid all his honours in the dust. His populous cities are destroyed, and deluged with the blood of their inhabitants; his fruitful fields are turned into a desert, and his wives and children captives in the house of an imperious master. O Barcas! can misfortunes like these be supported with patience, or lessened by the generous aid of friendship? I well know, that if thy wisdom can point out a remedy for my grief, thy sincere desire of being serviceable to all the sons and daughters of affliction, will not suffer thee to conceal it; but this, I fear, is a task beyond thy power."

"Selim," replied the shepherd of Chaldee, "thy misfortunes are certainly grievous, and heavy to be borne; but let not thy hours be spent in fruitless complaining, nor dare to pry into the arcana of heaven. Call not the afflictive turns of life evil, till thou art able to comprehend the intention for which they were sent; and the good which, for ought thou knowest, may arise from them. View thyself with care and sincerity, and take a true list of all thy vices; remember the allwise Being is best acquainted with thy frame, and considers thou art but a child of dust. Blame not

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the governor of the univerſe, becauſe thou canſt not ſearch the profundity of his meaſures, nor find out the depth of his judgments; conſider thy ſight at preſent is imperfect, and confined within very narrow bounds. But thou ſhalt ſoon put off the veil of mortality, and thou ſhalt then be capable of ſurveying things which are now inviſible. The clouds of misfortune and vapours of affliction ſhall be then diſperſed, by the brightneſs of a clearer ſun: the heavens no longer frown, but the ſky exhibit a proſpect of ſmiling ſerenity. The thunders of affliction ſhall no longer utter their hoarſe voices, and the billows of grief which now rage, ſhall ſink into a calm. Then ſhall the ſyſtem of providence be revealed, and the ways of heaven made known to the children of men. Learn therefore, Selim, to govern the unruly paſſions of thy repining ſoul, and reign emperor over thyſelf. Remember that the things thou haſt loſt, were only lent thee by that Being who formed the univerſe, and who hath now wreſted them from thee by a tyrant's arm; but for what purpoſes is impoſſible to be known, nor ſhould wretched mortals dare to enquire. Submit thyſelf therefore to his pleaſure, and bear thy misfortunes with conſtancy and reſignation. Wait with patience and ſubmiſſion, till thou art taken from the regions of mortality, and then ſhalt thou receive the reward of all thy labours.

These reflections revived the heart of Selim, and his countenance became tranquil and ſerene. He thanked the generous Barcas for his friendly advice, and departed from his hoſpitable tents in peace.

A GENUINE ANECDOTE *of the late Mr.* CHARLES CHURCHILL.

THOUGH Mr. Churchill led a very diſſolute life, he was very humane, and the cry of diſ-

treſs never reached his ears in vain.——As he was returning home, about two o'clock in the morning, from a debauch, he was accoſted in the Strand by a genteel young girl, who in a tremendous voice aſked him to accompany her to a tavern, and treat her with a glaſs of wine; Mr. Churchill was ſtruck with her manner of addreſſing him, which he obſerved was quite different from that of a common proſtitute, and, looking in her face, he ſaw it covered with tears; he felt her ſituation, and, giving her a guinea, bid her go home and get ſomething to enliven her ſpirits, as ſhe ſeemed much in need of it, and told her, he was certain ſhe had not been uſed to that way of life. The poor girl, unable to contain her gratitude for ſuch unexpected generoſity, dropped on her knees in the ſtreet, and implored ten thouſand bleſſings on him who had thus preſerved a family from ſtarving. He raiſed her up, and deſired her to explain herſelf, "I am, ſir," ſaid ſhe, "the daughter of an officer, whoſe regiment being broke, he is now reduced (with a wife and five children) almoſt to the point of death, we were brought to the laſt extremity, when I, unable to ſee my dear parents in ſuch a condition longer, reſolved on this method to procure them ſuſtenance; but your generous bounty has ſaved me from a dreadful proſtitution, and will give freſh life to a ſtarving family, who will ever pray for you."——Truth forces conviction; Mr. Churchill felt that ſhe ſpoke ſincerely; he deſired to be immediately led to this ſcene of woe, and finding the account that ſhe had rather ſoftened than exaggerated, he not only adminiſtered a relief to their preſent neceſſities, but procured a liberal beneſaction for them, and exerted his intereſt with his noble friends ſo effectually, that he ſoon got a captain's commiſſion made out for the father in a regiment in Ireland, that his (Mr. Churchill's) generous mind might not be hurt by the grateful thanks and

praiſes

praiſes that would have been loaded on him for ſo noble, ſo diſintereſted an action.

Story of JACK EASY *and* POLLY GAY.

JACK EASY, a gay, good-natured, careleſs, complaiſant fellow, of conſiderable dependencies, but no immediate fortune, danced with the charming Polly Gay at a public aſſembly; they had not met before; they were mutually pleaſed with one another; and as approbation makes long ſtrides towards love, they were both in a very ſoft and ſighing condition by the next evening.

The company my friend Jack was in, would have declared him a gentleman, had not the unaffected eaſe of his deportment ſufficiently evinced it; and the lady's air and manner, the eaſe with which ſhe received the common civilities, and her reſerve that checked any thing that ſeemed but to lean towards familiarity, ſufficiently beſpoke her worth the following, and not to be had without ſome trouble.

Difficulties to a man of ſpirit are the life and ſoul of an amour: Jack would have deſpiſed an angel that would have ſunk into his arms, as ſoon as he opened them to receive her; but no ſooner heard of fathers, aunts, and rival; of ſwords, locks and blunderbuſſes, and all the train of caution and revenge, than he ſet it up as the great point of the preſent period of his life to ſurmount them.

He wrote to her, but the father opened the letter; he ſerenaded her, but the aunt's face appeared at the window; he toaſted her a pint deep in Burgundy, and a well dreſſed fellow aſked him if he had pretenſions to the lady.

Theſe and ten thouſand ſuch obſtacles, only gave him new ardour in the purſuit: if letters could not be received, he put paragraphs, intelligible only to her,

into the news-papers; if the Play-houſe or Opera were forbidden, if Vauxhall or Ranelagh were deſerted, the church was open, and he knew how to repair there for the ſolemn buſineſs he intended in it.

The lover found means to keep up a correſpondence with his miſtreſs, even in her enchanted caſtle: gold opened the doors to his meſſengers, and even himſelf was ſometimes admitted to a converſation from a window: the ſucceſs was too obvious to be concealed from the Argus eyes of the father; he reduced the matter to a ſhort alternative with the lady: he told her, "madam, you muſt either quit this gentleman or me." She anſwered, "then ſir your humble ſervant;" and at midnight dropped from the accuſtomed window into the arms of her lover; who immediately called up a Fleet parſon to ſpeak the prologue to his approaching tragedy.

It was a month after they were married, before it entered into Jack's head to enquire about the lady's fortune: nor would ſo unmannerly a thought have preſumed to viſit that ſeat of reverly then, but that the laſt guinea he was poſſeſſed of was ſent to be changed. He found the lady's ſituation was juſt ſuch as his own; that her relations had much ability, but very little inclination to do any thing for her; and in two days received an anſwer to a letter he had written to his own father, informing him that he ſhould never look upon him again; and another from her's, aſſuring him, that it would be a ſingular pleaſure to him to ſee ſo inſinuating a raſcal, and ſo diſobedient a baggage, ſtarve together.

There is a very coarſe proverb in our language, that ſeems a ſort of paraphraſe on the politer expreſſion of the Romans; "Sine cerere & Baccho friget Venus." But to do our new-married people juſtice, poverty increaſed, inſtead of abating their paſſion for one another. That they ſubmitted to every thing, is

not

not the proper character of their conduct: there was no disagreeable, no mean office either could do for the other, that was not snatched at with the utmost eagerness, as a proof of love and gratitude, and that did not inspire the other's heart with an increased fondness, while it filled the eyes with tears.

My gay friend and his blooming wife had passed three years in this uncomfortable situation, when his father died, and left him in possession of a pretty fortune. I had kept up my acquaintance with them in all their distress, and promised myself infinite satisfaction in the continuance of it now they were in happy circumstances. But alas! distresses I find are immediately necessary to some peoples happiness. Jack, who could before live upon almost nothing, now finds it difficult to keep within the bounds of six times his income; and the agreeable Polly, who was all affability, all good nature in her former circumstances, is grown insufferably peevish, insolent, and exceptious in her present situation. The appearance of a woman better dressed than herself in a public place, gives her an unsupportable anguish: it is pain to her to see a woman of quality take place of her in public; and but a hint that seems to lean towards the remembrance of her having been once in less affluent circumstances, sets her in a flame, that nothing but the tears that burst out upon it can allay. Her friends grew tired of her; her acquaintance are ashamed to be seen with her; and the unlucky husband finds ten thousand reasons a day to wish to be unmarried, or else to be a beggar again. He has told me of her throwing the cards at his head, because he had forgot whether an eleventh at whist, was an eight or a ten; and I was present yesterday at her sweeping the whole table at one jerk off the cloth, on his presuming to fancy that pheasant, which she called raw, might be done as some people liked it.

I think I owe the lady, who could affront me ſo far as to make me a witneſs of this, no reſpect that ſhould prevent my doing the world ſome ſervice at her expence, as an example; and I beg every married reader of mine to aſk their own hearts, if ever they ſhould be tempted under the ſame circumſtances, whether if the one of theſe people had aſked a parent's conſent, and the other obeyed the commands of one, both might not have made themſelves much happier in ſo important an article as marriage, than they have done by following mere inclination, even now that they are under the moſt advantageous ſituation in point of fortune? Obedience to a parent is one of the moſt natural of the ſocial duties: it is the only one to which a bleſſing is promiſed in this life, and the promiſe very ſeldom fails to be accompliſhed.

Theſe may be read two or three ways.

Your face	Your tongue	Your wit
So fair	So ſmooth	So ſharp
Firſt drew	Then mov'd	Then knit
Mine eye	Mine ear	My heart
Mine eye	Mine ear	My heart
Thus drawn	Thus mov'd	Thus knit
Affects	Hangs on	Yields to
Your face	Your tongue	Your wit

Inſtance of extraordinary Appetite.

CAMDEN informs us, that ſome parts of Norfolk, produce the moſt voracious eaters, and that ſome families there know their children to be legitimate by their exceſſive greedineſs for their food.

It is recorded by ſome author, that one of theſe, who had a mouth of an enormous ſize, uſed to ſwallow

low whatever came in his way, insomuch that the neighbours feared that he would by degrees devour the whole product of their farms. The common people were for knocking him on the head, stuffing his skin with straw, and hanging him up IN TERROREM. Many of them actually set traps near their corn malt; but he caused the springs to be stolen therefrom, which defeated their ends, and suffered him to pursue his ravenous course. However, by the advice of some of the wisest amongst them, a violent emetic was conveyed into some of his provinder, which operated so effectually, that he disgorged a prodigious load, by which means the whole country was manured, and his stomach spoiled ever after to the general joy of his neighbours.

Remarkable Instance of strict Justice.

THE Count de Beauvois, a French Nobleman, returning to his lodging, at the Hotel de Tours, in the Fauxbourg St. Germain, at Paris, about eleven o'clock at night, picked up a strolling female, whom he brought to his apartment, where she continued till morning. Next day after breakfast, he gave the lady a ticket in the lottery of St. Sulpice, as a reward for her condescension, at the same time assuring her, that she had no other payment to expect. The poor girl in vain represented the cruelty and injustice of this proceeding, alledging her extreme poverty, which, inclusive of her favours, intitled her to some present relief. But the Count was deaf to this remonstrance, though very pathetically expressed, and ordered his servant to conduct her down stairs, without giving her a single sous. In some time after, the lottery began at the Town-house, and the ticket was drawn a prize of twenty-four thousand livres. This news alarmed the Count, who immediately sent to the Bureau to stop

ſtop payment, alledging that he had been robbed of the ticket, by the perſon who pretended to be the legal owner. Accordingly, a proceſs was iſſued againſt the girl, and the cauſe was heard before M. de Sartine, Lieutenant of the Police, in April 1763, when the Count was forced to confeſs, by his anſwer, on oath, that he, himſelf gave her the ticket, as a conſideration for her ſpending the night with him. The Judge, irritated to that degree, (after ſeverely rebuking him, for his ungenerous proſecution of a wretched female, whom he intended to defraud of what was her unqueſtionable right) decreed, that ſhe ſhould have the whole profit of the prize, allowing intereſt for the ſum paid for the ticket, from the day of purchaſe, till the preciſe time of its alienation, to which determination, the Count was obliged to ſubmit, and the fortunate Heroine ſoon after, married an eminent mercer iu St. Denis-ſtreet, to the great ſatisfaction of the public, who were extremely well pleaſed with the iſſue of this adventure.

Hiſtory of CLEORA. *Related by herſelf.*

YOU muſt know, I was the only daughter of a half-pay captain; my father had the double misfortune of being of the younger branch, and that of a very poor noble family, and my mother was a diſtant relation before marriage, but had no fortune. As they had no more children than myſelf, they ſpared no pains or coſt on my education; and if my circumſtances were to have been judged by the manner in which I was brought up, no one would have imagined but that I was to have had 500l. at leaſt, to my portion; but inſtead of this, I had not the leaſt proſpect of a ſix-penny piece from any relation or friend whatever. My poor father uſed often to comfort himſelf with ſaying, that as his Cleora was nobly born, he

was

was reſolved ſhe ſhould have an education ſuitable to her birth. But alas! when I was about twenty-two, in one month I loſt both father and mother, and had nothing to ſupport me but my genteel education; and nothing to boaſt of but the nobility of my parentage.

In this dilemma I was at a great loſs to know what to do; for as I was bred to no trade, nor inured to any ſervice, I ſeemed to be excluded from the two only means left me to get my bread. While I was revolving theſe things in my mind, a maiden aunt of mine, by my father's ſide, who had for many years been ſtarving genteely on a ſmall annuity, very kindly invited me to her houſe. She was one of thoſe people who cloathed and fed herſelf with the thoughts of her nobility: and as I frequently took occaſion to expreſs my deſire of getting my own livelihood, either by binding myſelf to ſome genteel buſineſs, or by offering to ſerve ſome lady as her maid, ſhe as often flew in a paſſion, and told me, that there had not been a trade in her family for theſe two hundred years; and that, for her part, ſhe had rather ſee me ſtarve than go to ſervice.

I thought this an odd way of reaſoning; for, proud as ſhe ſeemed to be, ſhe was mean enough to ſolicit and accept of private charities, her annuity being but fifteen pounds a year.

She had a part of a houſe to herſelf; her parlour was elegantly furniſhed, and her buffet adorned with ſeveral pieces of old family plate; and I verily believe, ſhe would rather have wanted bread (which by the bye ſhe very often did) than have ſold a tea-ſpoon that had the family arms upon it. But alas! how different was that part of her furniture which was out of ſight; for, while her parlour looked like that of a princeſs, her bed-chamber reſembled that of a beggar. Her whole converſation was nothing more than a genealogy of her family; and all her thoughts ſeemed

to be taken up in conſidering how ſhe ſhould conceal her poverty, and at the ſame time convince the world that ſhe was nobly born. In this ſplendid diſtreſs I ſpent a twelvemonth, and heartily tired I was of my ſituation. For my aunt, though ſhe had too much pride to let me ſerve any body elſe, ſuffered me, nay, often obliged me, to do things, which the loweſt maid ſervants think beneath them. And while ſhe kindly entertained me on charity, as ſhe called it, ſhe frequently made uſe of my living with her as an argument to procure bounties from her friends. This was a thing I could not bear, and was reſolved to leave her at any rate; but how to do it without injury to myſelf was the difficulty; for from the time I had left the boarding-ſchool I had contracted no new acquaintance; for my father, to keep up, as he called it, the dignity of his family, dreſſed and kept a great deal of company abroad; ſo that if my poor mother and I got the bare neceſſaries of life, we thought ourſelves extremely happy. But here I muſt inform you, that endeavouring to avoid this poor, proud, mean, well-born lady my aunt, I narrowly eſcaped an evil of a more dreadful nature; for as I was young, not ugly, and evidently in diſtreſs, a gentleman that lodged oppoſite to us, having, as I afterwards found, fixed on me as a prey, took an opportunity, when my aunt was gone a viſiting, or rather begging, ſeeing me at the door, artfully to begin an acquaintance, which a correſpondence ſoon improved into ſomething like a friendſhip. He extorted complaints from me, ſeemingly entered into my diſtreſs, pitied me, and proteſted that he loved me; and alas! I almoſt believed him, which I really think, if I know myſelf, was more owing to my miſerable ſituation, than any motive of liking to him: however, as I thought I could not be more unhappy, I one day reſolved, though I own with fear and trembling, to throw myſelf at once into his protection,

protection, and truſt to his generoſity; for this I had promiſed him, and this I ſhould have certainly done, had I not received a letter from a friend that very afternoon to juſtify my fears, and convince me, that inſtead of a protector, I had only found a betrayor; and to be honeſt, for the firſt moment I can hardly ſay, whether I was more ſhocked or pleaſed at this diſcovery; but here, in the height of my miſery from this diſappointment, an accident of an extraordinary kind relieved me from my diſtreſs. My good aunt returning about five, diſappointed of a dinner where ſhe went, deſired me to broil the remains of the pound of mutton chops, leſt the preceding day; but as ſhe ſaid her grand-pappa, my Lord ———, was very fond of ſhallots with roaſt mutton, ſhe ordered me to fetch ſome, and put a halfpenny into my hand for that purpoſe; for as ſhe knew the alliance of her family for a hundred years, ſo ſhe was alſo particularly acquainted with their reſpective taſtes, with which ſhe conſtantly entertained me; and as I ſuppoſe, to prove, that people who were nobly born, were formed of different kind of materials from the vulgar, a thing ſhe herſelf verily believed.

But to go on with my ſtory; I went on the errand to the next herb ſhop, where the woman, who had always taken me for a ſervant, thinking I deſerved a better place, gave me a bill of the Univerſal Regiſter Office in the Strand, then ſet up, which, after reading, unexperienced as I was in life, I determined to apply to for relief; and as diſtreſs makes even our ſex bold, I went and entered myſelf for a nurſery maid's place, and by this means, in a week I got into a very good family; nor had I been a month in my nurſery before my lady diſcharged her own maid, and being acquainted with my ſtory, generouſly preferred me to attend upon herſelf. It was now I began to feel a real joy from the danger I had avoided from my lover,

and

and to ſee that ridiculous creature my aunt with the higheſt contempt.

What a change of ſituation was here! from pride, poverty, idleneſs, naſtineſs and miſery, ſupported only by the conſideration of being nobly born, to that of being honeſtly and uſefully employed, kindly treated, poſſeſſing every conveniency and comfort of life, and nothing to rob me of my happineſs but the thought of being a ſervant. Alas! what a bugbear has falſe pride made ſervice to our ſex. For my own part, the only difference I conſider between miſtreſs and ſervant is but the name; for as to happineſs, they are or may be upon a footing. It is often ſaid, that one misfortune generally treads upon the heels of another; but I have never heard the ſame acknowledged of good fortune. But this only ſhews that the world in general are more ready to complain of what they ſuffer, than to acknowledge what they enjoy. I am very ready to ſay, I eſteem my removal from my aunt into ſervice as a happineſs, as I muſt ſay the ſame of my removal from that happy ſervice, to that of marrying a worthy tradeſman, who though he has no nobility of blood to boaſt, yet, if honour is juſtly defined to be honeſty of heart, in that excellent quality he is exceeded by none. I cannot ſay more than by aſſuring you I am happy. Bnt to make you laugh, I muſt inform you, I received a letter full of reſentment from my aunt, in which ſhe charges me with diſhonouring her family by marrying a tradeſman; and that ſhe was reſolved not to take any notice of me, do any thing for me, or give me a morſel of bread if I was ſtarving. The great happineſs I have found in perſeverance, is the reaſon why I wiſh to have this in print, in hopes to perſuade all parents to educate their children in proportion to their circumſtances; and to aſſure all thoſe of my ſex that labour under the prejudices of education, whoſe minds are poiſoned with falſe pride,

that

that induſtry generally meets with ſucceſs; that in England ſervice is no ſlavery; nor is it any diſgrace, but rather an honour, to any one, be their birth or education what it will, to be a ſervant when it becomes neceſſary, for their ſupport; for ſure nothtng can be ſhameful that is honeſt.

LITTLE MOUTHS: *a Tale. By Dr.* King.

FROM London, Paul the carrier coming down
To Wantage, meets a beauty of the town;
They both accoſt with ſalutation pretty,
As, how doſt Paul? Thank ye, and how doſt Betty?
Did'ſt ſee our Jack, nor ſiſter? No, you've ſeen,
I warrant, none but thoſe who ſaw the queen,
Words often ſpoke in jeſt, ſays Paul, are true,
I came from Windſor, and if ſome folks knew
As much as I, it might be well for you.
Lord, Paul! what is't? Why give me ſomething for't,
This kiſs, and this. The matter's then in ſhort,
The parliament have made a proclamation,
Which will this week be ſent all round the nation;
That maids with little mouths do all prepare,
On Sunday next to come before the mayor,
And that all batchelors be likewiſe there.
For maids with little mouths ſhall, if they pleaſe,
From theſe young men chuſe two a-piece.
Betty with bridled chin extends her face,
And then contracts her lips with ſimp'ring grace,
Cries, hem! pray what muſt all the huge ones do
For huſbands, when we little mouths have two?
Hold, not ſo faſt, cries he, pray pardon me,
Maids with huge gaping wide mouths muſt have three.
Betty diſtorts her face with hideous ſquall,
And mouth a foot wide begins to bawl,
Oh, ho! Is't ſo? The caſe is alter'd, Paul.
Is that the point? I wiſh the three were ten;
I warrant I'll find mouth, if they'll find men.

Account

Account of an aſtoniſhing Pike in a Pond in Kent, England.

SOME gentlemen going to bathe themſelves in a large fiſh-pond, belonging to a gentleman's ſeat in Kent, one of the company, putting his hand into the water, to feel if it was warm, a large Pike immediately ſeized him by the fingers, and held him with ſo great ſtrength, that the gentleman pulled him out of the water by his fingers to the aſtoniſhment of all preſent. When the above pike was opened, there was found in his belly, a flower-pot, twelve inches diameter, with an auricula in full bloom, which uſed to ſtand by the ſide of the pond, and had been miſſing for ſome months, and was ſuppoſed to have been blown in by the wind.

There was likewiſe found in his belly, a duck-egg, which on being broke, was found to be quick, and 'tis thought, had it remained a day or two longer in the belly of the pike, that it would have produced a live duckling.

Anecdote of Count SAXE.

COUNT SAXE was in great favour with the Ducheſs of Courland, who offered him an apartment in her palace, which he accepred of, and poſſeſſed all the time he remained at Mittau; where he was entertained at the expence of that Princeſs, who did every thing to oblige him. She offered him her hand, but his intrigues of gallantry were ſo unbounded, that ſhe at length ſhewed great indifference to him.

Three ladies who waited on that Princeſs were lodged in apartments joining to that of their miſtreſs; and the Count's was ſeparated from their's by a large ſpacious court. Count Saxe loved one of thoſe ladies paſſionately, and was beloved by her; but there was no poſſibility of introducing himſelf into her chamber, becauſe

becauſe of the neighbourhood of the reſt. In order to remove this inconvenience, they agreed that every evening, as ſoon as all was quiet he ſhould go and receive her from her window, conduct her to his apartment, and lead her back again every morning before day. This ſucceeded very well for ſome time; but at length, one unhappy morning, as he was carrying her back on his ſhoulders, to prevent her catching cold, the ground being covered with ſnow, an old woman, with a lighted lantern, met them full-butt, and was ſo frighted that ſhe cried out as loud as ſhe could bawl.---The Count, likewiſe ſurprized, made a motion to put out her light, and break her lantern with one of his feet; but, the other ſlipping at the ſame time, he fell with his burthen on the old woman, who redoubled her cries. A centinel coming to ſee what was the matter, the actors were known, and the ſcene publiſhed all over the city. The Ducheſs was no ſooner awake, than the adventure was told her, in order to make her laugh; but ſhe was ſo vexed at it, that, with what ſhe knew before, and what was now told her, nothing more was neceſſary to make her paſs from indifference to contempt.

Hiſtory of Miſs MARIA WITTON *and Sir* WILLIAM STROTHER.

SIR William Strother, a young baronet with a very good eſtate in South-Wales, having been thrown from his horſe near the park-gate of Mr. Witton in Warwickſhire, was not only moſt humanely aſſiſted by that gentleman, but accommodated in the kindeſt manner at his old caſtle. Sir William in a ſhort time felt no inconveniencies from his fall; but found himſelf ſo happily ſituated, that he diſcovered no inclination to purſue his journey when he was in a riding condition.

The hoſpitable behaviour of Mr. Witton would, perhaps, have been ſufficient alone to render him too well pleaſed with his preſent ſituation, but the charms of his daughter, undoubtedly ſtrengthened his attachment to the caſtle; and both together operated ſo forcibly upon him, that he was utterably unable to tear himſelf from ſo enchanting a ſpot.

Miſs Witton's perſon was extremely pleaſing, but Sir William was captivated by thoſe beauties which are not at a firſt glance diſcoverable. With a clear and acute underſtanding, ſhe was poſſeſſed of many elegant accompliſhments, and ſo truly good-natured, that the death of a bird (to the ſight of which ſhe had been accuſtomed) would draw tears from her eyes. She was almoſt nineteen, tall, and finely proportioned: ſhe had a genteel face, and a blooming complexion; and though every feature was full of ſenſe, ſhe was the picture of ſimplicity. To an excellent and exemplary mother, Maria was conſiderably indebted for many of the agreements by which ſhe every moment attracted Sir William's attention; and ſhe every moment ſaid or did ſomething to convince her amiable parents, that their affectionate and judicious inſtructions were not thrown away upon her.

Sir William was thoroughly ſenſible of Maria's merit as a daughter, as he was of her magnetic power as a woman; and very rationally concluded, that ſuch a woman would make a valuable wife. He was three and twenty, with a ſtriking figure, and bright parts; highly accompliſhed, and formed to appear advantageouſly in the moſt faſhionable circle: fond of the gay world, he was, however, neither a libertine nor coxcomb, and prudently kept himſelf free from any connexions with the two ſexes, which might injure his honour, his health, or his fortune.

Mr. and Mrs. Witton, from what they had heard about Sir William before the accident he had met with

had

had entitled him to a kind reception at the caſtle, as a fellow-creature in need of their aſſiſtance, and from the obſervations which they had made on his behaviour under their roof, were ſatisfied enough with his character and conduct to look upon an alliance with him as a deſirable thing: it was with great pleaſure, therefore, that they perceived Sir William's polite and delicate endeavours to make an impreſſion on Maria's tender heart, and that they diſcovered in her carriage a partiality for their very agreeable gueſt; a partiality which, though ſhe ſtrove to conceal it, ſhe could not hide either from him or them.

Sir William, though he thought he might depend upon the evidence of his eyes with regard to Miſs Witton's ſenſations in his favour, wiſhed to be aſſured, as ſo many of his friends had been deceived by appearances, that her gentle heart throbbed for him, ſeparated from his title and eſtate; and waited with impatience for that ſweet ſatisfaction, being reſolved to make an open avowal of his love, when his doubts were diſſipated, and, at the ſame time, to intreat her parents to conſent to their union.

The ſatisfaction which he impatiently wiſhed for, he in a few days received.

While he was walking in the garden towards the cool of the evening, in a penſive mood, he beheld on a ſeat in one of the alcoves to which he was directing his ſteps, a letter: on his near approach to it, he ſaw Maria's hand; the ſuperſcription was to Miſs Hawkins, the deareſt of her female friends. Impelled by a particular curioſity at that juncture to peruſe the contents of it, as it was addreſſed to that friend, he read it, for it was not ſealed, with avidity; he read it alſo with rapture.

To Miſs LUCY HAWKINS.

" You have not been miſinformed, my dear Lucy, " concerning Sir William Strother, for he is really the

" moſt agreeable man I ever ſaw, and ſeems to be
" every way an amiable character. As to what you
" ſay about your Maria's heart, I cannot, I honeſtly
" confeſs, contradict your home aſſertion: this be-
" witching man has, indeed, made an impreſſion up-
" on it, not eaſily, perhaps never, to be effaced. He
" is extremely attentive to me, takes a great deal of
" pains to recommend himſelf, and is but too ſucceſſ-
" ful for my peace. I am a ſimple creature, Lucy,
" and ſometimes fancy that I am of conſequence
" enough to make a diſturbance in his breaſt. Were
" I but as neceſſary to his happineſs as he is to mine,
" I ſhould be the moſt contented girl in the world,
" but I dare not expect ſuch felicity; for though he
" behaves to me in a manner ſufficiently flattering to
" my vanity before my father and mother, he appears
" always ſo embarraſſed, and frequently ſo dejected
" when we happen to be by ourſelves, that I am na-
" turally led to conclude he is either actually in love
" with another, or ſo entangled by a prior engage-
" ment, as not to be at liberty to withdraw his ad-
" dreſſes with honour. Hoping to ſee you ſoon, I
" ſend you but a ſhort letter now---Pray throw it in-
" to the fire when you read it---I am almoſt aſhamed
" —I am ſure I have bluſhed more than once during
" the writing of it, to offer it to your peruſal; but
" firmly relying on your friendſhip, I unboſom my-
" ſelf with my uſual unreſerve.

" I am, my dear Lucy,

" Your's moſt affectionately,

" M. W."

Sir William, intoxicated with the diſcovery which he had made, could not help crying out, in ecſtatic accents, " charming angel! what a treaſure wilt thou be to the man who poſſeſſes thee!" when he had vented

vented this exclamation, he quitted the alcove, put the letter in his pocket, and walked on, not in a leſs penſive mood, but with more pleaſing emotions than he had ever felt in his life.

Hearing the ſound of feet behind him, he turned briſkly, and beheld Maria, who had been to pay a viſit with her mother in the neighbourhood, tripping towards the ſpot which had produced ſo much delight to him.

He advanced immediately and found her upon the critical ſpot, crimſoned with bluſhes, and with ſtrong marks of confuſion in her countenance. Her bluſhes and her confuſion increaſed, when he, taking her hand, tenderly begged to be acquainted with the cauſe of her embarraſſment.

She made a ſhift to murmur out, "I have loſt a letter, Sir William," but could not look in his face while ſhe articulated thoſe few words.

Pitying the conflict between love and delicacy in her gentle boſom, he ſaid, preſſing her hand, "Was it to Miſs Hawkins, my dear Maria."

That queſtion, by juſtifying her ſuſpicions, threw her into ſuch a tremor that ſhe was ready to ſink to the ground; and ſhe probably, would have fallen, had he not ſupported her in his arms: her tongue was chained up, but her ſilence was in the higheſt degree ſatisfactory, as it forcibly confirmed every thing ſhe had written in his favour.

"You have no reaſon, my ſweet girl," ſaid Sir William, "to be ſo much diſconcerted at my having your Letter to Lucy in my poſſeſſion, but I"——continued he, drawing it from his pocket, and giving it to her, "have many apologies to make for having impertinently devoured the contents of it; but indeed, Maria, I was puſhed on by an irreſiſtable curioſity: I have long wiſhed to know the ſentiments of your heart concerning me; earneſtly wiſhed to find them in my favour, that I might be induced to declare

my own feelings on your account. Happily I am now encouraged to inform you, that the felicity of my future life depends upon your ſmiles, and that it is entirely in your power to make me the happieſt, or moſt wretched of men. I deſerve correction it is true, for having gratified my curioſity in a clandeſtine manner; but I hope I have ſaid enough to atone for ſo unfair a proceeding, and, on my knees, moſt fervently implore your pardon for it."

"Riſe, Sir William," ſaid Maria innocently ſmiling, "and be as happy as you wiſh to be. If it is in my power to make you happy, you never ſhall be otherwiſe."

While he was pouring out his warm acknowledgements to her, Mr. and Mrs. Witton appeared advancing towards them. Sir William immediately leading Maria to her mother, ſaid, "you have abſolutely the beſt daughter in the world, madam." He then pulling Mr. Witton by the ſleeve, intreated him to ſtep aſide with him for a few minutes, while the ladies returned to the houſe.

Mr. Witton readily accompanied his agreeable gueſt and Sir William gave his hoſpitable entertainer no ſmall pleaſure by the diſcovery of a ſecret which had been almoſt from the day of his coming to the caſtle buried in his breaſt: for ſoon after his arrival was he charmed with Maria's perſon and converſation, and every ſubſequent day had ſtrengthened his attachment to her. He alſo frankly confeſſed to the father of his Maria, how he had availed himſelf of her forgetfulneſs; and by the honeſty of his confeſſion raiſed himſelf in that father's eyes.

When the treaty of marriage between Sir William Strother and Miſs Witton was declared, it occaſioned a prodigious commotion in the neighbourhood among the females, who viſited the latter, and who had ſet their caps at the former---but the lady moſt mortified

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upon the occaſion, was a Miſs Jenyngs, who lived with an old aunt about a mile off, and who had, by the help of a ſtrong fancy, flattered herſelf that Sir William was actually enamoured with her, though he only behaved to her with common politeneſs. Self-flattery is of a very intoxicating nature, and half the diſquietudes in the female world are, perhaps, owing to its deluſions. Bab Jenyngs was a *viſionaire* of this kind in the higheſt form.

Ambition is in many, probably in moſt women, the ruling paſſion: the predominant one in Miſs Jenyngs was love. Had ſhe been under the influence of the firſt, ſhe certainly would have encouraged the addreſſes of Lord Myrtle, whoſe eſtate joined to that of her aunt's little territories, and who, in the lover's language, was dying for her: as ſhe was under the dominion of the laſt, ſhe treated him with the coldeſt neglect, with the moſt chilling indifference.

As Bab and Maria were upon a very intimate footing, they were often together; and as Lord Myrtle and Sir William were extremely well acquainted, they were all frequently engaged in parties of pleaſure.

Bab having believed from Sir William's polite attentions to her whenever ſhe fell in his way, that his paſſion for her was not leſs ardent than her's for him (ſo cruelly had love played on her imagination) was equally aſtoniſhed, provoked and afflicted, when the intelligence concerning his union with her friend reached her ears. In the firſt moments of her fury, ſhe appeared more like a woman bereft of her ſenſes than a rational creature——With quick and irregular ſteps ſhe walked up and down the room, ſtamped, raved, and breathed nothing but revenge. In vain did her ſenſible, mild, philoſophic aunt, endeavour to reaſon her into a calm- --The tempeſt in her mind grew more violent, the more it was oppoſed.

"You have certainly been miſtaken, my dear," ſaid Mrs. Dormer, with her uſual ſerenity, "with regard to Sir William's carriage——You have reckoned too much upon his politeneſs: you thought him particular."

"So he was, madam," replied Bab, ſtopping ſuddenly in the middle of the room, "and he is a villain for baſely carrying on an intrigue with that bluſhing country girl, who has ſeen nothing of the world, after having given me ſufficient encouragement to imagine that I was the goddeſs of his idolatry. But I will be even with him——I will prevent his marrying Maria, or periſh in the attempt."

As Bab was of a romantic turn, and rather theatrical in her deportment, ſhe could not help expreſſing herſelf ſomewhat heroically in a ſituation of which ſhe only who has felt the cutting "pangs of deſpiſed love" can have an adequate idea.

Mrs. Dormer attempted to diſſuade her from the execution of her deſign, with a vehemence which ſhe never diſcovered but upon very ſingular occaſions. "You will only expoſe yourſelf, my dear Bab," continued ſhe, "by taking any meaſures to interrupt the joyful preparations at the caſtle----If Sir William had preferred you to Miſs Witton for a wife, he would not, you may be aſſured, have fixed upon her for lady Strother."

Bab, finding that her aunt greatly diſapproved her intentions, and fearing that ſhe might, from the ſincere regard ſhe had for Maria, fruſtrate her ſchemes, by putting the objects of her reſentment on their guard, had recourſe to fineſſe; and altered her behaviour in ſo dexterous a manner, that Mrs. Dormer really thought her prudent admonitions had made the wiſhed-for impreſſion on her.

From that time ſhe affected to give up Sir William as a man entirely beneath her notice, who was quite

tranſported

tranſported to ſee, at laſt, her heart, ſoftened in his favour. Having told his Lordſhip one day between jeſt and earneſt, that ſhe ſhould vaſtly like a maſked ball, he immediately ordered the neceſſary arrangements to be made, and ſent cards of invitation to all his friends in that part of the country: the Witton family, and Sir William, were conſequently among the invited.

About this time a mad headed couſin of Bab's, juſt arrived from the Weſt-Indies, came down to ſee Mrs. Dormer; ſhe immediately felt a ſtrong deſire to make his immenſe vivacity ſerviceable to her. When ſhe had informed him of the ball, to which ſhe had been invited, ſhe added, "now, George, I will venture to carry you with me, becauſe I am very ſure you will meet with a polite reception from Lord Myrtle on my account, though you are not acquainted with him; but I have a ſcheme in my head to render your evening more ſpirited than you poſſibly can expect it to be: you love a frolic I know."

"Aye, that I do, Bab: I am ready for any frolic ——No matter what it is."

Charmed with his alacrity, ſhe proceeded to give him inſtructions, and he promiſed to obey them.

A maſked ball being quite a new thing at Myrtle-Abbey, it was exceſſively crouded. A ſiſter of his lordſhip's, a woman of no attainments, but very fit to do the honours of the houſe, received the ladies, while he paid the proper compliments to the gentlemen who favoured him with their company.

Agreeably to his couſin's inſtructions, Bamber ſtudied to recommend himſelf to Sir William Strother in a particular manner, and was ſucceſsful: ſoon finding his weak ſide, he planted all his artillery againſt it.

When the hour of ſeparation arrived, Mrs. Dormer's coachman having been purpoſely rendered incapable of ſitting on the coach-box, ſhe would not, on

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any account, being extremely timorous, venture to go home under his direction: Mr. Witton, therefore, offered to accommodate her and Miſs Jennyngs in his carriage, as they lived in a line with the caſtle. Sir William and Mr. Bamber told them that they would truſt themſelves with Thomas, though he was not altogether *compos.*

While they were riding over a large common, about five in the morning, Mr. Witton was ſurpriſed to ſee, by the faint light of a watery moon, a perſon on horſeback, muffled up in a great coat, and maſked, galloping towards them: he was more ſurpriſed, in a ſhort time afterwards, to ſee a piſtol thruſt into the coach, and to hear the ſalutation uſually made uſe of by the gentlemen of the road.

Being near the window at which the piſtol was preſented, he ſeized it immediately, and turning it, fired at the highwayman, who, with a deep groan, rode off.

Having ſet down Mrs. Dormer at her houſe, and earneſtly deſired Bab to take care of her aunt as ſhe had been alarmed at the ſight, and terrified at the report of the piſtol, the Wittons proceeded to the caſtle. When they arrived, poor Maria, who had alſo been alarmed and terrified, was in ſuch a tremor from head to foot, that her father and mother, moſt affectionately pitying the agitation of her ſpirits, could not without great difficulty remove her from the carriage. In the firſt apartment they came to, they adminiſtered all the comfort in their power, and applied ſome of thoſe family-cordials, which they thought might be inſtantly efficacious.

In leſs than half an hour after they had all diſengaged themſelves from their maſquerade dreſſes, while Mr and Mrs. Witton were hanging over their darling child in the fondeſt attitudes, and endeavouring to diſpel the fears which ſhe diſcovered concerning Sir William, he entered the room, ſupported by two country-

countrymen, Mr. Witton's tenants, in a horſeman's coat (which was very bloody on the left ſide) the picture of death.

At the ſight of Sir William in ſuch a dreſs and in ſuch a condition, they were all ſtruck with horror, for they all believed him to be the owner of the piſtol, and their horror could be only equalled by their aſtoniſhment---Maria fainted; Mrs. Witton's whole attention was directed to her: Mr. Witton, having with the aſſiſtance of his tenants, laid his friend upon a ſopha, diſpatched them to the next town for a Surgeon.

Sir William, putting his hand to his heart, ſaid, with a feeble voice, "It is all over with me, my dear Sir; but I deſerve my fate, for having ſuffered myſelf to be drawn in by young Bamber, to join with him in ſo unpardonable a frolic, though nothing really criminal was intended by it."

"Good heaven, Sir William!" replied Mr. Witton, "how could you poſſibly imagine ſuch a frolic could be innocent; but I cannot ſpeak what I feel---To think of being your murderer," continued he, with a raiſed voice, lifting up his eyes, and ſtriking his breaſt, "is anguiſh inſupportable."

Maria, ſtarting from her mother's arms, at that inſtant flew to her father, and ſeizing him by the ſleeve, with a wildneſs in her looks, cried, "who talks of murder? if you have killed him, you have killed me."

Mrs. Witton ran out of the room, on Maria's ſpringing from her in ſo alarming a manner to call the ſervants.

Sir William, ſhocked to ſee poor Maria in ſo dreadful a condition, made an effort to riſe from the ſopha, and taking hold of her other hand, intreated her to be compoſed on his account----"I ſhall be better"---He could add no more, but ſunk upon the ſeat he had quitted.

Mrs.

Mrs. Witton now re-appearing with ſeveral ſervants, Maria was ſoon, though not till after much ſtruggling, forced out of the room.

The ſurgeon came and dreſſed his wound; but telling him at the ſame time he dared not to flatter him with the hopes of living many hours, adviſed him to ſettle his worldly affairs while he remained capable of attending to them.

Sir William took his advice, and having made a little ſupplemeet to his will, in which he bequeathed a handſome legacy to his Maria, prepared for the approach of death with the fortitude of a chriſtian. He died in a few hours afterwards. Maria having continued in a raving ſtate till the day appointed for the funeral of her lover, on that very day cloſed her eyes for ever.

Curious Diſcoveries in DIVINATION *and* ASTROLOGY.

MUCH rain is a certain ſign of wet weather.

Coughing, rheums, and pains in the teeth, betoken a cold.

The moon in Piſces, ſignifies ſhe has a fiſh dinner, ſhe will decreaſe, and the lanthorns will be carried about at night.

Whenſoever the moon is in Taurus, there is no doubt but they will have four horns betwixt them, and the ſun will riſe in the morning.

The old moons make bad winter nights, and then the winds make a noiſe if they blow hard.

Jupiter in Libra, looks like a grocer at his ſcales, and denotes there will be ſummer and winter that year.

Jupiter in Ayres, denotes melancholy in all that cannot be merry.

Venus in Gemini, portends that whores will not be ſatisfied with one.

Saturn

Saturn in Capricorn, threatens the heads of huſbands who have lewd wives.

Mercury in Leo, will not be unlike one that ſhews wild beaſts; foreſhews diſtempers in thoſe that eat abundance of melons and cucumbers, and drink water after them; and that the ſick will die, if the phyſicians takes them in hand.

The moon in the Dragon's head, ſignifies the Dragon has a head.

Tke full moon ſignifies that ſhe can hold no more, and this is a certain rule.

An eclipſe of the ſun is the nobleſt eclipſe, denotes it will be darkened whilſt it laſts, and that aſtrologers will tell abundance of lies, which fools will believe, and mighty men will dread.

A blazing ſtar with a long tail, looks like quality, and foretells abundance of people of all ſorts will be gazing at it; and if it be fiery, all the princes will die that year, who cannot live till the next.

A great conjunction is a certain ſign that many kings will meet, and ſome be taken at cards. Many great men, as well as little ones, will contrive c n-junction with females, and ſome of them will obſtruct them. *Ptolomy, Origanus, Albumazar, &c.*

Remarkable Inſtance of RESEMBLANCE *in perſons.*

FULLER in his hiſtory of worthies relates, that Nicholas and Andrew Tremain, twins to Thomas Tremain of Colecombe, in the county of Devon, Eſq; were ſo alike in all lineaments, that they could not be diſtinguiſhed, but by their ſeveral habits, which when they were pleaſed to exchange for ſport, occaſioned more diverting miſtakes than are introduced in the Amphitryon of Plautus.

The ſame author writes, that they felt like pain, tho' at a diſtance, and without notice given, deſired

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at one and the ſame time to walk, ſit, ſleep, eat, and drink. What is ſtill more remarkable, they fell together in battle at Newhaven in France, in 1564.

Anecdote of Mr. E—— a ſcholar at Cambridge, who was, by a ſtrange Accident, locked up in his Cloaths Cheſt.

WHEN Biſhop Walton's Polyglot Bible firſt came out, Mr. E——, then a ſcholar at Cambridge, and much given to the Eaſtern languages, was determined to purchaſe it, but it was too expenſive for his pocket; ſo he ſold his bed from under him, and took up his lodging in a large cheſt, which held his wearing apparel. It happened one morning, as he was about to emerge from his cheſt to attend the college prayers, the lid fell down upon him with a ſnap lock, and ſhut him in paſt recovery. There he lay in durance, till a ſervant of the college happily coming into his chamber, releaſed him before he was ſuffocated. Such an accident could not remain a ſecret: it got to the ears of his father, who pitying his diſtreſs, and applauding the zeal which had occaſioned it, redeemed his bed, and left him in full poſſeſſion of his Polyglot. The uſefulneſs of that great and noble work to the critical divine, has never been diſputed, and is now an honour to the Engliſh nation.

An infallible Recipe for Lowneſs of Spirits.

TAKE an ounce of ſpirit of reſolution, properly mixed with the oil of good conſcience, infuſe into it a large ſpoonful of the ſalts of patience, diſtil very carefully a compoſing plant called others woes, which you will find in every part of the garden of life, growing under the broad leaves of diſguiſe, ſome drops of this will very much aſſiſt the ſalts of patience

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in their operation; gather a handful of the bloſſoms of hope; ſweeten theſe properly with the balm of providence; if you can procure any of the genuine cordial of true friendſhip, you will have the moſt valuable medicine that can be adminiſtered; but take care of a counterfeit kind which is very common, is entirely different in its nature, though very like in its appearance, and whoſe proper name is ſelf-intereſt; a ſmall quantity of this poiſonous plant is ſufficient to ſpoil the whole compoſition.

Make theſe ingredients into pills, which you may call Pills of Comfort; take one every night as you lie down to reſt, and as ſoon as you awake in the morning.

The fatal Effects of wicked Policy, exemplified in the Story of Prince Buhamar, *and the* Two Thieves.

BUHAMAR was one of the moſt wiſe and ſagacious princes of his time: he had, from his earlieſt youth, with great ſtudy and application, addreſſed himſelf to conſider what might poſſibly be the conſequences and reſults of ſuch and ſuch actions: to ſo reſtleſs and active a genius as this, variety of ſcenes and much buſineſs were requiſite, nay, ſuch was the temper of this prince, that, for want of other employment, he ſometimes entered into ſchemes that were not ſtrictly moral; to gratify this buſy diſpoſition, he frequently ſat with his judges in the courts of judicature: the great diverſity of ſuits and cauſes which were always managed there, gave exquiſite pleaſure to this curious prince. In ſhort, he arrived at ſuch incredible knowledge of men and things, that, our hiſtorian ſays, it was by many affirmed he was divinely enlightened. It happened in one of theſe judicial humours one day, that he heard two malefactors tried upon ſuch a variety of the moſt ſubtle villainies, that it might be thought, by any perſon of leſs penetration

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than he was, that no two men in the world could even have time, much leſs abilities, for the performance of ſuch things. Each fact was ſo well ſupported with evidence, and confirmed by circumſtances againſt them, that their guilt was as plain as certainty. During the whole proceſs of the trial, our prince looked upon them with great wonder and ſurprize, but, when he heard of locks, bolts, and doors flying open to them almoſt with a word, his ſurprize grew into amazement; he then deſired the judge, on ſome trifling pretext, to defer their ſentence; and, without communicating his deſign to the judge, the ſame night he ordered that both the priſoners ſhould be privately conducted to his ſeraglio. When the criminals were brought into the royal preſence, Buhamar, inſtead of charging them with their guilt, ſays, with a chearful countenance, "Ye are the moſt extraordi-
"nary men in the world, if theſe things be true which
"were advanced againſt you this day:" to which one of the villains, falling on his face, replied, "High
"and mighty prince, as nothing but truth ſhould ap-
"proach the ear of majeſty, we, the moſt unworthy
"of thy ſlaves, do confeſs our guilt, and implore thy
"royal clemency:" upon which the prince enquired what their profeſſions were; to which he was anſwered, that one was an architect, and the other a ſmith; that they were ſo mutually aſſiſtant to each other in the carrying on their deſigns, that they could do nothing but in conjunction. Buhamar then told them, that they could not be inſenſible their lives were forfeited to juſtice for their offences; but that he, thro' his princely favour, would not only condeſcend to forgive them, but would promote them to great honours and wealth, if they would undertake faithfully and ſincerely to diſcharge a commiſſion with which he deſigned to entruſt them, on their ſolemn promiſe of faith, zeal, and ſecreſy to his majeſty's commands.

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He produced a ſmall book, where were the plans of ſeveral great and eminent buildings, among which was that of the haram of Iſpahan, which was the palace of Schah-Abas the Great, then Sophi of Perſia. Buhamar enquired from the architect, whether he knew what ſtructure that was; to which he readily anſwered, it is the haram of Iſpahan; I was employed upwards of twenty years about this palace. The prince then pointing to a ſmall turret in one of the gardens, enquired what building that was; the architect told him, it was a retiring-chamber, where the grand Sophi and his achmet doulet, or prime miniſter privately conferred. Says the prince, will you engage to drop a packet into this place? I will reward you according to my promiſe, and beyond your deſire. On his aſſuring the prince that he would, with the aſſiſtance of his companion, they accordingly that night received their commiſſion, together with a large ſum of money. This was a letter wrote with the King's own hand, addreſſed to the achmet doulet, in which among many other acknowledgments for favours received, he particularly thanks him for rhe friendly care he took of him in diſappointing the Sophi, his maſter, from ſending his armies that year into his territories; and, by way of poſtſcript, ſubjoins a draft on Iſaiah the Jew lapidary at Iſpahan, for jewels to the amount of 40,000 ſequins of gold; this he called a ſmall earneſt of his gratitude. The two meſſengers, having received their inſtructions, inſtantly ſet out for the court of Schah-Abas, where with much money, great promiſes, and infinite cunning, they at laſt had acceſs to the turret, and having diſpoſed of the letter, according to their directions, which was to drop it on the floor, as if it had accidently fell from ſome perſon, they then retired. Not long after, the Sophi ſends to the chief eunuch, to let him know, that he intended to give the achmet doulet a meeting in the turret that

evening, on ſome matters of ſtate; the chief eunuch who had charge of the turret, immediately went to prepare for his maſter's coming; having opened the chamber-door, he caſt his eye upon the packet, which when he took up, and ſaw that the ſeals were broken, his curioſity incited him to look further; but how great was his aſtoniſhment, when he read the contents! and either his fidelity to his maſter, or his jealouſy of the achmet doulet's greatneſs, determined him to reveal the fatal ſecret to the Sophi. Great were the agitations and perplexities of the good king on this occaſion. "Can this," cries he, "can this be "to my achmet doulet? to my faithful achmet dou-"let, the public profeſſed enemy of that ſlave Buha-"mar?" In this dilemma, he reſolves to feign ſome occaſion to ſend the achmet doulet out of the way, and in the mean time to conſult with his graveſt counſellors what was moſt proper to be done under theſe circumſtances. The council were divided; ſome of them told the king, that this could be no other than a politick ſcheme of the crafty Buhamar, to remove the achmet doulet from about the king's perſon; it was at laſt agreed upon, that the draft ſhould be ſeparated from the body of the letter, and ſent to the Jew for acceptance; which when the Jew ſaw, he ordered it immediately to be paid, either in money or jewels, and the achmet doulet was adjudged guilty. The enraged Sophi ſends his guards immediately to execute the unfortunate, but innocent achmet doulet, together with his wives and children; his houſe was razed to the ground, branded with infamy, and converted to a dunghill. Thus fell diſhonoured and abuſed the achmet doulet, whoſe principal guilt was fidelity to his maſter. If Buhamar's gold could have prevailed over his integrity, he might have lived without ſhame, though not without guilt. This melancholy tragedy when related to the crafty Buhamar, by his ſubtle emiſſaries,

emiſſaries, he replied, "This is ſo glorious an action, that, if you live any longer, I am afraid you will tarniſh the merit of it, by ſome new crimes;" and therefore ordered them immediately to be ſtrangled.

The DRUNKEN FROLICK *of* CHAPELLE, JOURDAIN, LA MOTTE, *and* NUGENT, *to drown themſelves, happily prevented by* MOLLIERE.

LET us now take a trip to France, and ſee what kind of diverſion that active, volatile nation affords us; and, if we believe Mr. Gay's deſcription of the humours of that people, we ſhall find matter enough both for amuſement and ridicule. He ſays,

"In Paris there's a race of animals,
"(I've ſeen them at their operas and balls)
"They ſtand erect, they dance whene'er they walk,
"Monkeys in action, paraquets in talk;
"They're crown'd with feathers like the cockatoo,
"And like camelions, daily change their hue;
"From patches, juſtly plac'd, they borrow graces,
"And with vermillion lacquer o'er their faces;
"This cuſtom, as we viſibly diſcern,
"They by frequenting ladies toilets learn."

However, we ſhall not enter upon a minute detail of the ridiculous whimſies, faſhions and modes of that fantaſtic people; but ſhall confine ourſelves to the extravagant humours, flights and vagaries of their moſt celebrated wits and connoiſſeurs. Moliere was a famous comedian, and eſteemed the brighteſt genius of the age in which he lived; and therefore, we may be ſure, he had all the choice ſpirits in his retinue. In his latter days, Moliere was confined to a milk-diet; but when he was at his country-houſe near Paris, his friend Chapelle uſed to invite the gueſts, and be maſ-

ter of the ceremonies. Moliere withdrew one evening, leaving his friends at their bottle. About three in the morning, the talk happened to fall on mortality: "What an inſignificant thing is this life of ours," cried Chapelle, "the gall infinitely outweighs the honey; thirty or forty years are often thrown away in the purſuit of a pleaſure, which at laſt does not fall to our ſhare, or deceives our expectation; our poor childhood is perpetually plagued by our parents in ſtuffing our heads with a pack of nonſenſe; what a plague is it to me, whether the ſun or the earth circulates, or whether that crazy fellow Deſcartes, or that viſionary Ariſtotle, be in the right? Yet my blockhead of a tutor was continually thrumming ſuch ſtuff into me, and teazing me with his Epicurus; though, indeed, him I liked well enough. Well, we were no ſooner out of the clutches of theſe pedants, but a ſettlement is brought upon the carpet; by Jupiter, women are ſworn enemies to man's quiet; look round on every ſide of this fine life, there's nothing but care, vexation, misfortune and confuſion." Jourdain roſe and embraced him: "Spoke like thyſelf, my dear friend; life is a ſcurvy buſineſs indeed; let's leave it to grovelling fools; and leſt ſuch good friends ſhould be ſeparated, let's e'en go and drown ourſelves together; we have but a ſtep into the river." "That's my hero," ſaid Nugent, "this is the very nick of time to die good friends, and in high ſpirits; beſides, the whole nation will ring with this exploit." This friendly motion being unanimouſly applauded, up ſtart theſe inebriated gentlemen, and ſtaggered away for the river. Baron (Moliere's lad) run out for help, and called up Moliere, who was the more terrified at this project, as he knew them to be ſo far in liquor. Theſe frantics had already reached the river, and were putting off a boat, in order to drown themſelves in the deepeſt water; but luckily ſome of the ſervants and

villagers

villagers being at their heels, drew them aſhore. Enraged at being prevented in deſtroying themſelves, they drew their ſwords upon their helpers, and theſe took to their heels towards Moliere's houſe, who meeting his furious friends, ſaid to them, "What's the matter, gentlemen? What have theſe raſcals done to you?" "Done," replied Jourdain, who was the moſt forward to be gone, "theſe ſcoundrels have interrupted our drowning ourſelves; now, dear Moliere, you are a man of wit, and ſo may judge whether we are not greatly in the right; wearied out with this paltry world, we were upon mending our condition in the other; to which the river ſeemed the ſhorteſt cut; and theſe dogs of ruſtics have fruſtrated our expedition; don't they deſerve our ſwords in their guts?" "Is it ſo?" replied Moliere, "that's too good for them; begone, ye ſcum of the earth," ſaid he, in a ſeeming anger to the poor men, "or I'll break every bone in your bodies; ſuch fellows as you preſume to thwart gentlemen in their noble deſign! Now, gentlemen," continued Moliere, "in what have I deſerved, that you ſhould not have acquainted me with ſuch an exalted purpoſe? What! to drown yourſelves, and leave me in this ſneaking, fickle, miſerable world; I thought you had loved me better." "He is indeed in the right," ſaid Chapelle; "'twas not friendly in us; well, come along, the more the merrier." "Fair and ſoftly," replied Moliere, "this requires ſome deliberation; 'tis the laſt act of life, and ſhould be attended with all its merit; were we to drown ourſelves now immediately, the ſpiteful world would not fail to make it a handle, to ſay we did it in the night, like folks in deſpair, or in a mad fit of drunkenneſs. Let us take the ſeaſon that will dignify the atchievement, and ſet it in its full luſtre; about eight or nine in the morning, freſh and faſting, we'll ſolemnly proceed, hand in hand to the river, before a

multitude of ſpectators, and then a good riddance of the world." "His reaſons are unanſwerable," ſaid Nugent, "I like them well." "The devil's in it," continued la Motte, "we are but mere ideots, in compariſon of this Moliere, ſe agreed, we'll put it off till to-morrow; and, in the mean time, let's to bed, for I can hardly keep my eyes open." Thus, without Moliere's happy preſence of mind, there would have been a horrid complication of guilt and miſchief; for his friends were bent upon revenge; but a ſound ſleep reconciled them to the world; and they rewarded thoſe who had put a ſtop to their precipitate departure.

A Cherry-ſtone preſerved five Years in a Man's Mouth.

A Certain cook, who ſometimes attends at Hicks's-Hall, conſtantly keeps, and has done ſo for upwards of five years paſt, a large cherry-ſtone, in the hollow of a large uncommon tooth, which is in the left ſide of his mouth. The ſtone itſelf is a very uncommon one; but what is ſtill more ſtrange, it aſſumes different colours, at different ſeaſons of the year, being yellow in ſummer, red in autumn, and brown in winter.

He ſometimes takes it out, and ſhews it to ſuch as have a curioſity to ſee it; but never ſuffers it to be out of his tooth above five minutes together, leſt it ſhould get cold.

Anecdote of Sir JOHN MEAD, *Counſellor at law, the proudeſt Man in Ireland; and Sir* EDWARD SEYMOUR, *the proudeſt Man in England.*

SIR John Meade, the anceſtor of the great Doctor Meade, was bred to the law in Ireland, and was deſervedly diſtinguiſhed as one of the fineſt ora-

tors

tors that ever this nation produced. It happened that Sir Edward Seymour had an eſtate of 5000l. a year fallen to him in Ireland; but this was a fortune too conſiderable to hope to get poſſeſſion of without difficulty, as there were other claimants under the ſame title, and therefore he found his perſonal appearance in this kingdom abſolutely neceſſary. It is to be obſerved, that Sir Edward Seymour was accounted the proudeſt man in England; and Sir John Meade was no leſs remarkable for that ſame fault here.

Sir Edward landed at Dublin, filled with that ſovereign contempt which Engliſhmen generally have for the whole country; and meeting with ſome of his old friends, who held the principal poſts of honour here, he enquired, "Whether there were any ſuch "creatures as lawyers to be met with in this damn'd "place." They anſwered, "Yes, and thoſe very "good ones;" but if he had any cauſe of importance to try, he muſt apply himſelf to Sir John Meade, if he hoped to carry it. "Well," ſaid he, "let one "of my fellows go and fetch him." "Your fellows! Sir Edward," ſaid one of the gentlemen; "why 'tis "odds if you can get acceſs to him yourſelf." "What the devil!" returned he, "do Iriſh lawyers "take ſuch ſtate upon them?" "You are to conſi-"der, Sir Edward," ſaid the other, "he is a gen-"tleman of family, has a noble fortune, and is ſo "eminent in his profeſſion, that ſhould he be em-"ployed againſt you, you may bid farewell to your "cauſe."

This laſt argument had ſuch force with it, that Sir Edward condeſcended to wait on Meade the next morning; who being apprized of what the other had ſaid, reſolved to be as ſtately as himſelf, and accordingly ſent him down word, "that he was then very "buſy, but if he was pleaſed to ſtay till he was at "leiſure, he would ſee him;" ſo Sir Edward was

ſhewn into a parlour, where he remained for an hour, to mortify, before he could obtain an audience. When Meade thought he had humbled him enough, he then ſent to let him know, that he ſhould be glad to ſee him; and received him with a politeneſs natural to him; but when Sir Edward went to open his caſe, he told him, "he muſt leave his brief, for he could "not ſpare time to hear him." Sir Edward laid down his brief with a purſe of gold upon it; and then taking his leave, departed full of indignation that he had now met an Iriſhman prouder than himſelf.

When the day appointed for trial came, there were ſeveral eminent council engaged on the oppoſite ſide; and Sir John, reſolving to try the patience of his client to the utmoſt, permitted every one of them to ſpeak before him, without interruption, and ſat drawing of birds with a pencil, while Sir Edward could hardly diſſemble his reſentment, thinking himſelf betrayed, and judging by the pleadings that the cauſe muſt inevitably be determined againſt him. At length, however, Sir John ſtood up, and deſired to be heard; and having made himſelf maſter of the ſubject he was to ſpeak upon, he ſo fully refuted all Sir Edward's antagoniſts, and made his title to the eſtate ſo evident and with ſuch maſterly eloquence, that he obtained a decree to be put in immediate poſſeſſion.

On the breaking up of the court, Sir Edward preſſed Sir John to give him his company that evening; but he excuſed himſelf, telling his client he was that night engaged to a club. Well, then, ſaid Sir Edward, let me accompany you, if you think it will not be diſagreeable to your friends. Sir John made anſwer, they would all, he was ſure, think he did them honour. So accordingly Sir Edward met them. Some of his friends finding him in bed at twelve o'clock on the enſuing day, he told them, he had been up all night. With whom, Sir Edward? "Why," returned

turned he, " with Homer, Plato, Socrates, Cicero, " and all the antient Greek and Latin poets, philoſo- " phers, and orators."

Manner of Watchmen intimating the Hour at Hernhuth, in Germany, which begins at Eight in the Evening, and leaves off at Six in the Morning.

8 PAST eight o'clock, O, Herrnhuth, do thou ponder,
Eight ſouls in Noah's ark, were living yonder.
9 'Tis nine o'clock, ye brethren hear it ſtriking,
Keep hearts and houſes clean, to our Saviour's liking.
10 Now brethren, hear, the clock is ten, and ten is paſſing,
None reſt, but ſuch as wait for Chriſt embracing.
11 Eleven is paſt, ſtill at this hour eleven,
The Lord is calling us, from earth to heaven.
12 Ye brethren, hear, the midnight clock is humming
At midnight our great Bridegroom will be coming.
1 Paſt one o'clock, the day breaks out of darkneſs,
Great morning ſtar appear, and breaks our hardneſs.
2 'Tis two, on Jeſus wait this ſilent ſeaſon,
Ye two ſo near related, WILL and REASON.
3 The clock is three, the bleſſed Three doth merit,
The beſt of praiſe, from body, ſoul, and ſpirit.
4 'Tis four o'clock, when three made ſupplication,
The Lord will be the fourth on that occaſion.
5 'Tis five o'clock, five virgins were diſcarded,
When five, with wedding garments, were rewarded
6 'Tis ſix o'clock, and I go off my ſtation,
Now, brethren, watch yourſelves for your ſalvation.

Anecdote

Anecdote of Mr. EVANS, *a celebrated Comedian, and formerly Manager of the Theatres in* DUBLIN *and* CORKE.

IN the laſt year of the reign of queen Anne, the company of players at Dublin went down in the ſummer ſeaſon to play at Corke. One evening Mr. Evans, the maſter, was invited by ſome officers of a regiment then on duty in that city, to a tavern; many healths were propoſed, and went round without reluctance; when it came to Mr. Evans's turn, he propoſed the health of her majeſty queen Anne, which ſo much diſguſted one of the company (tho' cloathed in the livery of his royal miſtreſs) that he ran down ſtairs, and ſent up a drawer to whiſper Mr. Evans; who immediately put on his ſword, and went after him, without taking the leaſt notice to the company. He found his antagoniſt in a room in the paſſage of the tavern, with the door half open, who courageouſly made a thruſt at Mr. Evans, which he put by with his left hand; at this, Mr. Evans drew, thruſt the door wide open, entered, and ſoon drove his oppoſer out to the paſſage, where he diſarmed the doughty hero, before the company above ſtairs knew any thing of the matter.

The reſt of the military gentlemen expreſſed an abhorrence of the treatment Mr. Evans received, and, ſeemingly reconciled them on the ſpot; but, notwithſtanding, when the company returned to Dublin, the perſon who ſent the challenge up ſtairs at Corke, being then returned alſo, told his own ſtory in ſuch a manner, that ſeveral warm gentlemen of the army were made to believe, that Mr. Evans had affronted the whole military body; and when the poor ſuppoſed culprit came to his buſineſs of the theatre, their clamour, in the audience, was ſo great, that the houſe

was

was diſmiſſed, and no play to be acted till Mr. Evans had aſked public pardon upon the ſtage.

His high ſpirit was, with great difficulty, brought to ſubmit; but at laſt he conſented. The play was, The Rival Queens; or, the Death of Alexander the Great; the part of Alexander to be acted by the Delinquent. He came to aſk pardon before the curtain; when he addreſſed the audience, one Smart, from the Pit, cried out, "Kneel, you raſcal!" Evans, then collected in himſelf, replied, in the ſame tone of voice, "No, you raſcal, I'll kneel to none but God and my Queen!" A dangerous paroxiſm, at ſuch a criſis. However, as there were many worthy gentlemen of the army who knew the whole affair, the new raiſed clamour ceaſed, and the Play went through without any moleſtation.

A remarkable Inſtance of Divine Juſtice.

ABOUT thirty years ago, an eminent brewer in St. James's-ſtreet, in this city, had for ſome years employed a particular perſon, as a ſmith and farrier, to take care of his numerous ſtud of dray and coach horſes, at a certain annual ſalary, which was punctually paid him, whether his trouble was much or little. The brewer, at length diſcovering that this ungrateful wretch committed ſeveral thefts on his corn, and other articles, diſcharged him, and engaged another, who was well recommended for ſkill and honeſty, which ſo excited his malice againſt the brewer, that he reſolved to take ample vengeance on his innocent beaſts.---With that view he got a dark Lanthern and a Razor, conveyed himſelf into the ſtable, one night about twelve o'clock, and tying a handkerchief round the neck of each horſe, drew it ſo tight as to force the tongue out of the mouth, which he cut off, pretty near the roof, which barbarity was repeated, till he had

had gone through the whole ſtud. The poor creatures thus mortally wounded, either bled to death or periſhed for want of ſuſtenance, as they were incapable of ſwallowing any kind of food. But the all-ſeeing power, who made them to be uſed, not wantonly abuſed by man, puniſhed the villain in a moſt exemplary manner on the ſpot. A blow, ſtruck by an inviſible hand, on both his eyes, forced them from their ſockets, and not being able to find his way out of the ſtable, he was found in the morning on the floor, half dead, and bleeding in a frightful manner. The brewer took care of the wretch till his recovery, and then turned him looſe, without adding to a puniſhment evidently inflicted by an Almighty Power. He lived ſeveral years after this accident, and though ſupported by charity, became an object of horror and deteſtation, even to thoſe who adminiſtered daily to his wants.

An extraordinary Character.

PEREGRINE PUZZLE poſſeſſes about three hundred a year in the funds, which he ſpends to the laſt farthing by the end of the year, and takes care not to run one farthing in debt. In this particular he may be ſimilar to ſome few, but in every other reſpect there is ſcarce another being on earth that reſembles him. Indeed, the ſole object of his attention is to deviate in every thing from all the world. His dreſs is ſtudiouſly unfaſhionable; you may always trace a retroſpective mode of at leaſt ten years in the cut of his coat, and the cock of his hat. He wears a bob wig, becauſe every body now either wears their hair, or club their perukes. His ſhoes are ſquare toed, his hoſe yellow, and his breeches come not below his knees. His bed is in his dining-room, and he receives his company in his bed-chamber. He was a ſtaunch

Butetite

Buteite whilſt Wilkes was popular; but now he has loſt his popularity, he is a ſtrenuous Wilkite. He never goes out in fine weather, but when it rains plenteouſly, he is conſtantly upon the tramp throughout London till it becomes fair. He eats beef-ſtakes for breakfaſt, and drinks coffee for dinner. He goes to reſt at five in the afternoon, and riſes at three in the morning. He reads Moliere in Engliſh, and Milton in French. He never has his face compleatly ſhaved; at one time his upper-lip beſpeaks him a Jew, at another his chin announces him a Muſſulman. He drinks wine to his meats, and porter to his pipe. He prefers mutton to veniſon, and a red herring to turbot. In converſation, he never agrees with any man, and if his opponent ſhould at length agree with him, he then takes the oppoſite ſide of the queſtion to re-confute him.---His chief food conſiſts of vegetables in winter, and high diſhes in ſummer. Being at a coffee-houſe taken for another perſon a few days ago, he aſked the gentleman who made the miſtake, "If there was any one in London like himſelf?" and being anſwered there was, he immediately went home, and changed his dreſs from top to toe; then returned, and aſked the ſame perſon, "If any one reſembled him now!" "no really, Sir, that is impoſſible." This reply reſtored him to his former tranquility of mind.

After this deſcription, it were almoſt needleſs to ſay, that Mr. Puzzle is a Batchelor, and that he probably will never prove a Benedick. Let it not, however, be ſuppoſed, that Peregrine has no penchant for the lovely ſex; but then his amours are confined to fiſh-women for the fragrance of their odour, and cinder-wenches for the inchantment of their complexion.

Anecdote of WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.

EVERY circumſtance relative to a diſtinguiſhed character ought to be preſerved. That Shakeſpeare was of an amorous conſtitution, has been repeatedly told us; but of his particular connections with the fair, we are almoſt wholly in the dark. The following adventure (ſays our correſpondent) is authentic, and I believe, new to the world.

One evening, when the tragedy of Richard III. was to be acted, the poet obſerved a ſmart damſel trip behind the ſcenes, and ſlyly whiſper to Burbidge (a favourite player, and an intimate of Shakeſpeare) who was to perform the part of Richard, that her maſter had gone out of town in the morning, that her miſtreſs would be glad of his company after the play, and that ſhe begged to know what ſignal he would uſe.

"Three taps on the door, my dear, and, *'Tis I, Richard the Third*," was the anſwer of Burbidge.

The girl decamped; and Shakeſpeare, whoſe curioſity was ſufficiently excited, followed her ſteps till he ſaw her enter a houſe in the city. On enquiry in the neighbourhood, he found that the owner of the manſion was a wealthy merchant, but ſuperannuated, and exceedingly jealous of his young wife.

At length the hour of rendezvous approached; and the poet having given the appointed ſignal, &c. obtained inſtant admittance.——Nothing could equal the indignation of the Lady when ſhe found herſelf in the arms of a ſtranger.——He flattered and vowed: ſhe frowned and ſtormed. But it was not in woman to reſiſt the ſoft eloquence of a Shakeſpeare.——In a word, the bard ſupplanted the player. He had even obtained his utmoſt wiſhes before the repreſentative of Richard appeared. No ſooner had he given the

appointed

appointed taps than Shakeſpeare, popping out his head from the window, demanded his buſineſs.

"'Tis I, 'tis I, Richard the Third," replied the impatient Burbidge.

"Richard; (rejoined the other) Knave, begone ——Know, that WILLIAM *the Conqueror* reigned before Richard the Third." 31 JY 61

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Labours of The poor in London.
It is the following Hawkers
Eats meat Jun, some of them
will sell in one day a hundred
weight, there are about three hun-
=dred cats meat men in London
and it is supposed that
2,000. a week is spent for it in
the Metropolis.

Earthenware They are mostly
Mostly Jews, very few christians
in the business, It is supposed
There are from 800 to 1,000.
persons employed. The value of
the Old Clothes of the Metropolis
amounts to about 52,000 per annum